

# The Glory Banner

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church (ELCA)

A Wildfire Congregation

November 2022



Cross of Glory  
Office hours: M-W 10-2  
[www.crossofglory.us](http://www.crossofglory.us)  
763-533-8602

## WORSHIP WITH US!

**In-person** – Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am for 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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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:

**Lead Pastor:**  
Rev. Ali Tranvik  
[atranvik@crossofglory.us](mailto:atranvik@crossofglory.us)

**Bookkeeper:**  
Mike Edstrom  
[medstrom@crossofglory.us](mailto:medstrom@crossofglory.us)

**Worship Leader:**  
Mark Trease  
[mltrease@comcast.net](mailto:mltrease@comcast.net)

**Choir Director:**  
Keith Williams  
[williams@csp.edu](mailto:williams@csp.edu)

**Office Manager CLC:**  
Rachel Marquardt  
[office@crossofglory.us](mailto:office@crossofglory.us)

**Custodian Facilities Manager:**  
Matt Steven

**Tech Ministry:**  
Ryan Bailey



## Prayer of Good Courage

O God, you have called us to ventures  
of which we cannot see the ending,  
By paths as yet untrodden,  
Through perils unknown.  
Give us faith to go out with good courage.  
Not knowing where we go,  
But only that your hand is leading us,  
And your love supporting us,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen!

*-Evangelical Book of Worship*



### 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 (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, we would love to come visit you and bring you communion. Please reach out to schedule a time.

### STEWARDSHIP 2022: BE OF GOOD COURAGE

For over 60 years, pilgrims of many kinds have ventured to the Cascade Mountains of Washington state to visit Holden Village, a Lutheran retreat center that “welcomes all people to form and renew their relationships with God, the earth, and each other.” Once a copper mining town, Holden Village is now a place of vibrant educational programming, spiritual retreat, and worship.



Those who visit Holden Village often take their new discoveries back home. For example, Cross of Glory continues to sing the “Holden Evening Prayer” liturgy each year thanks to those in our congregation who have spent time at Holden Village in years past.

But another gift that has traveled far beyond the Cascade Mountains is the “Prayer of Good Courage.” The prayer, which is prayed at the end of Holden worship services and has since been incorporated into the *Evangelical Lutheran Book of Worship*, is now prayed at baptisms, weddings, funerals, graduation blessings, ordinations, church openings, church closings, and weekly Sunday services in churches throughout the world.

The words of this prayer--printed on the cover of this newsletter--are the basis for our stewardship theme this year: “Be of Good Courage.” Throughout the first weeks of November, we’ll be exploring in worship what it means to live out the words of this prayer this next year, both as individuals and as a community of faith. We’ll be asking questions like, “what is courage? Where does it come from? What or who is it for? What does it mean to live--and give--courageously?” To explore these questions, we’ll look at different stories in scripture about God’s people being called--even in the most dire or uncertain of circumstances--to take heart, take risks, be of good courage. We’ll also be praying this prayer in both spoken and sung form in our worship services.

In the coming days, you’ll receive a letter in the mail with some stewardship materials, including your 2023 pledge card, which helps us faithfully plan our budget, as well as some information about various ways to give toward the work that God is doing in our congregation and community. I invite you to begin prayerfully considering your financial commitment for the upcoming year--perhaps using the Prayer of Good Courage as your guide!

This stewardship season, as we open ourselves to what God is calling us to in 2023--and to what that means for the giving of our time, talents, and treasures--may we remember that even as we may be led into “ventures of which we cannot see the ending,” or by “paths as yet untrodden,” or through “perils unknown,” as the prayer says, “God’s hand *is leading us, and God’s love is supporting us.*” *And to that we can courageously say: thanks be to God! -Pastor Ali*

### NEWS FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD



Photo credit: CAPI USA

That’s a wrap on Fresh Food Fridays for this year...thanks to all who have taken part! Fresh Food Fridays will pause for the winter months. If you’re interested in getting involved in CAPI’s food shelf this winter, visit [www.capiusa.org/get-involved/volunteer/](http://www.capiusa.org/get-involved/volunteer/).

On Friday, Nov 11 & Nov 18 from 4-6:30 pm, CAPI is hosting a free Covid-19 vaccine clinic. Pfizer vaccines will be available, including for infants and kids. The Bivalent booster will be available for those 12 years and older who have passed 2 months since their first booster shot. Walk-ins are welcome and \$50 gift cards are given to those who take part.

### THANKSGIVING EVE PRAYER & COMMUNITY MEAL

As we give thanks for God’s abundant gifts, we invite you to join us on Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 23, for a short prayer service and community meal to follow.

**5 pm - “Psalms of Praise” Prayer Service** - Join us in the sanctuary for a candlelit service as we pray, sing, and read psalms of praise and thanksgiving. If you’re interested in reading a psalm or leading a prayer, let Pastor Ali know by November 12.

**5:30 pm - Community Meal** - All neighbors and friends are welcome as we gather for a meal of soup, bread, and pie. Organized by Faith & Neighboring Practices.

**Extending the Table** - As we continue to give God thanks, the Faith & Neighboring Practices group invites you to extend the table of our community meal by sharing pie with those in our community who weren’t able to make it to the meal or who may

particularly enjoy a slice. If you’d like to help with pie delivery on Thursday morning, Nov 24 or Friday morning, Nov 25 (or if you’d like to receive some pie!) let Isak know ([itravik@gmail.com](mailto:itravik@gmail.com)) or call the church office at 763-533-8602.



Artwork (adapted) by Marcella Kriebel © 2022

### CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

We have begun our Cancer Support Group again at Cross of Glory. We meet once a month on the second Monday at 11:00 a.m. Some of us had cancer many years ago and some more recently. Sometimes it helps to express feelings and to know we aren't alone! We laugh together, cry together and pray together. We form special friendships. Most important is that we know God is with us through it all!

Join us on Monday, November 14 at 11:00. Bring a snack and coffee will be provided. If you have a question, you may phone me, Carol Sjoquist, at 763-561-5546.





**First Sundays in Worship** - On the first Sunday of each month, COG offers a special time for kids during part of worship. 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.

**First Sundays after Worship** - This fall, 3rd-7th graders are invited to hang out for "older kids time" during worship. We will continue to explore the kids worship activities and make it relatable to our older kids. Come and have some fun with fellowship and donuts!

**Adult Helpers Needed** - If you're an adult who's willing to help out with any of these activities regularly or on occasion, please let Rachel know.

**Confirmation** - Confirmation is officially underway! Confirmation students are invited to gather on first Wednesdays at 7 pm. Friends are warmly welcome.

**Bibles** - - As a community of faith, we're called to live out our baptismal promises to the kids in our midst by continuing to "place in their hands the holy scriptures." If your child (aged 2-year-old, a 3rd grader, or a 5th grader was not able to receive their Bible on Reformation Sunday, please contact Rachel in the office.

## FAITH PRACTICES & NEIGHBORING PRACTICES

Last month, Cross of Glory--along with the 13 other churches across the synod that are taking part in Faith & Neighboring Practices--took part in a weekend retreat. Churches shared updates of the neighboring work they engaged in over the summer, we brainstormed how this work can continue into the new year, we were led in small group conversation by author and community organizer Peter Block, we worshiped, shared meals, and prayed. This month, we look forward to gathering with our Wildfire cohort to continue digging into faith & neighboring practices. Here at Cross of Glory, we hope to build on the community meals we shared this summer, continuing to find ways to break bread together with neighbors in the congregation and wider community!



Our keynote speaker at the Fall Retreat was Peter Block, author, theologian, and community organizer from Cincinnati, OH. If you're interested in learning more about Block's work, let one of the members of Faith & Neighboring Practices know, as we'd be happy to lend you a copy of his book that we were given, titled "Community: The Structure of Belonging."



### ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

We look forward to gathering again this All Saints Sunday, Nov 6, to remember the saints of Cross of Glory who have passed away this year. A special welcome and invitation to families who have recently lost loved ones. We also look forward to also welcoming the Dixieland Band--of which our Choirs Director, Keith Williams, is a part--who will offer a few pieces of special music that day.



*After many years as leader of the Cross of Glory Prayer Chain, I made the difficult decision of resigning from that position. Special thanks to all members of the Prayer Chain in your faithfulness in this prayer ministry. Thanks be to God, the ministry continues! Thank you to Rachel and*

*Pastor Ali for taking the leadership role in the continuation of the Cross of Glory Prayer Chain. God's Blessings to all. Sincerely, Lois Tollefsrud.*

*\*\*If you have a prayer request going forward or to be added to the prayer chain, reach out to Rachel in the office. \*\**



On Sunday, November 27th, following the morning worship service, you are invited to attend our next Table Talk gathering, an education hour for all ages. Last month, we explored Faith + Sabbath. This month, we'll look at Faith + Blessedness (Is there such a thing as being #blessed?). We invite you to check out a short reading ahead of time to ground our discussion. Copies of reading materials can be found at the bulletin board outside of the sanctuary, or here: <https://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/14/opinion/sunday/death-the-prosperity-gospel-and-me.html> Looking forward to seeing you there!

Gordy Johnsrud

### CoG CARE MINISTRY

The Cross of Glory care & visitation team is a community of members who check in with many of our homebound members, those living in senior care facilities, and those who are hospitalized. Visits can include anything from grocery shopping assistance to home communion, prayer to an ice cream outing! Visits may also be virtual--simply a phone call to check in. If you're interested in either receiving a visit or being part of the care & visitation team, let Pastor Ali know.

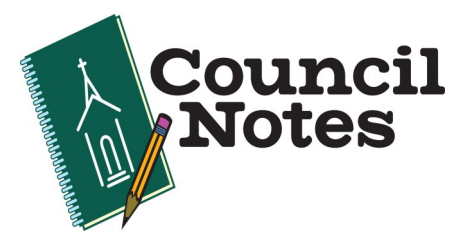


# Worship

- November 6—  
**Greeters:** Josephine Cook and Judy Lewis  
**Reader:** Julie Aulwes  
**Communion:** Gayle Merritt, Judy Lewis, and Carol Stejskal
- November 13—  
**Greeters:** Arlene Kosek and Marie King  
**Reader:** Kris Simon
- November 20—  
**Greeters:** Harriet Halverson and Delores Olson  
**Reader:** Dawn Bailey
- November 27—  
**Greeters:** Ron and Lois Tollefsrud  
**Reader:** Lois Tollefsrud
- December 4—  
**Greeters:** Audrey Retrum and Luella Hinnenkamp  
**Reader:** Dan Aulwes  
**Communion:** Linda Knudsen, Kris Simon and Judy Olson



COG Bible Study gathers on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am. Join us either onsite or online as we explore the texts assigned for the upcoming Sunday!



- ⇒ Stewardship is in November with the theme of “Be of Good Courage”.
- ⇒ We are continuing to support CAPI in any way that we can.
- ⇒ Faith and Neighboring Practices and Visioning and Vocation continue to work on bringing community together and discerning the best ways we can help.
- ⇒ All Saints Sunday is November 6th and
- ⇒ Daylight Savings ends November 6th (fall back).



## NEW PHOTO DIRECTORY - WE NEED YOUR HELP!

This is the last month that we're collecting photos and updated contact information for our new photo directory. We're excited to share the new directory later this year, which we'll be creating in-house and which will be made available in both in-print and online (password protected) versions. The directory will equip us to connect with and stay in touch with one another. But in order to do this, we need your help...

**Submit a photo** - If you haven't already had your photo taken, you may submit a recent photo of yourself/your family either as a hard copy or electronic file to Rachel Marquardt office@crossofglory.us. If you don't have one, contact Rachel to schedule a time to have it taken (for free!) at church.

**Share updated contact info** - Have you moved? Updated your phone number? Have a new email address? Let Rachel know any updated contact information so we can include you in the directory and keep you in the loop with COG news.



## November 2022 COVID Task Force Update

We are happy to report that COVID risk ratings for Hennepin County have generally been “Low” for a significant number of weeks. The tape in the sanctuary has been removed, enabling the COG community to physically distance at your own discretion.

Updated (bivalent) COVID-19 vaccine boosters are available from Pfizer and Moderna. They are called “bivalent” because they protect against both the original virus that causes COVID-19 and newer Omicron

variants. The CDC recommends that people ages 5 years and older receive one updated (bivalent) booster if it has been at least 2 months since their last COVID-19 vaccine dose, whether that was: Their final primary series dose, or an original (monovalent) booster. People who have gotten more than one original (monovalent) booster are also recommended to get an updated (bivalent) booster. Getting a COVID-19 vaccine after you recover from COVID-19 infection provides added protection against COVID-19. Boosters are available through your doctor's office, and at Hy-Vee, Walgreens, CVS, and other pharmacies. Visit the “vaccines” section of the [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) website for more information.

Due to the cold weather and the upcoming flu season, we will continue to have hand sanitizer available for use. Masking and physical distancing at church is not required and is at your own discretion. However, at your preference, feel free to mask, give a peace sign, refrain from hugging or handshaking at the sharing of the peace or other times at the church, as you judge best.

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



## WELCA Christmas Gathering:

**Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>.**  
 Meet your current prayer partner,  
 Collection of your Thank Offerings,  
 Select your new prayer partner.

## Circle Bible Study

**WEDNESDAY November 16, 2022 at 1:00 PM.**  
 Bring your own drink, snack and a friend. All women are welcome. Copies of the Bible Study will be available if needed. A microphone will be used.

## Fall 2022 Bible study

### Jesus and nature: Teachers of faith

Written by the Rev. Sara Olson-Smith

Jesus often turned to the natural world in teaching, opening our eyes to see creation not just as something to be cared for, but as our teacher and kindred. It is no mistake that Jesus, who lovingly spoke of soil and plants, was thought to be a gardener that first Easter morning.

November Bible study: Session 3: “creatures.” Offers us an opportunity to observe and learn about God from birds, foxes, sheep, dogs and other animals, while considering habitat protection, food justice and the model of trust.

**We will not meet for Bible study in December 2022, January and February 2023.**