

The Glory Banner

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church (ELCA)

A Wildfire Congregation

September 2022

A Blessing for the Labors of Community

Adapted from Every Moment Holy vol 1 By Douglas Kaine McKelvey

We gather together because we believe
that we are called together into a work
we cannot yet know the fullness of.
Still, we trust the voice of the
One who has called us.

And so we offer to you, O God:
Our dreams, our plans, our vision
--shape them as you will.
Our moments and our gifts
--use them as you will.

Richly bless the work before us, O God.
Shepherd us well lest we grow enamored
of our own accomplishment
or entrenched in old habit.

Instead let us listen for your voice,
our hearts ever open
to the quiet beckonings of your Spirit.
Let us in true humility and poverty of spirit
remain ever ready to move
at the impulse of your love.

You alone, O God,
by your gracious and life-giving Spirit
have power to knit our pain and our joys,
our stories, and our gifts, one to another.

May our acts of love and creation,
frail and wanting as they are,
be met and multiplied by the mysterious
workings of your Spirit,
who weaves all things together
toward a life more full
than we yet have eyes to see,
or courage to hope for.

May our love and our labors
now echo your love

and your labors, O Lord.

Let all that we do here
in these our brief lives,
in this our brief moment to love,
in the work of this community,
flower in winsome and beautiful foretaste
of greater glories yet to come.

O Spirit of God,
Now shape our hearts.
O Spirit of God,
Now guide our hands.
O Spirit of God,
Now build your kin-dom among us.
Amen.

Cross of Glory
Office hours: M-W 10-2
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.

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 continued 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:

Lead Pastor:
Rev. Ali Tranvik
atranvik@crossofglory.us

Bookkeeper:
Mike Edstrom
medstrom@crossofglory.us

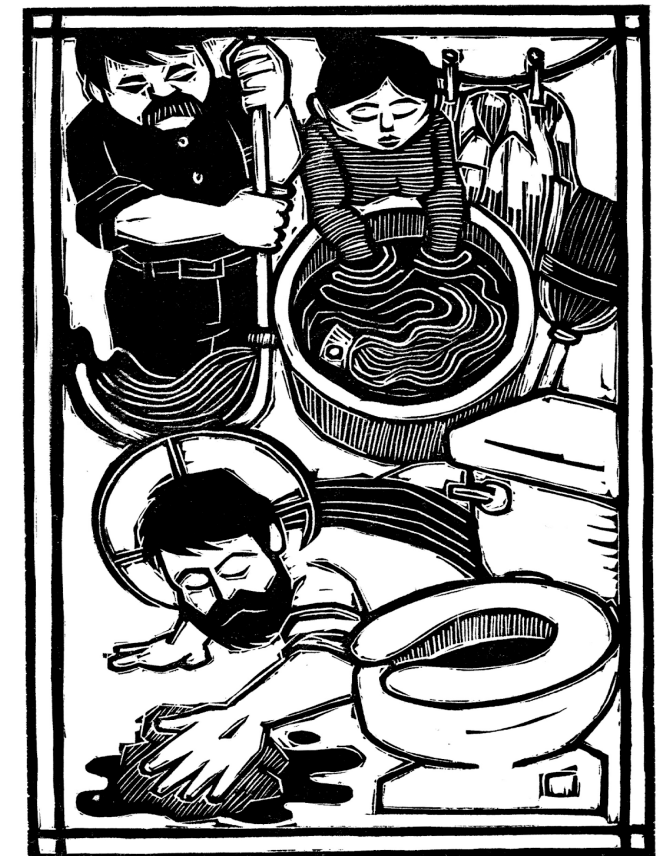
Worship Leader.:
Mark Trease
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Choir Director:
Keith Williams
williams@csp.edu

Office Manager/ CLC :
Rachel Marquardt
office@crossofglory.us

Custodian/ Facilities Manager:
Matt Steven

Tech Ministry:
Ryan Bailey





THE WORK OF THE PEOPLE

Although it's the beginning of Advent (in late November) that marks the beginning of the new church year, it's September--alongside the start of the new school year--when we welcome back many new rhythms in our life together. And so it's September when I am struck again by our community's "liturgy." I don't mean the liturgy of Sunday mornings, although I cherish that too. Rather, I mean the "liturgy" (a word that literally means "the work of the people") that spills out into our whole life together, throughout the entire week.

Our liturgy includes tutoring students in the community on Wednesday evenings, fueled by pizza (which all are welcome to come and eat at 5:30!). It includes quilting blankets for community members, and knitting prayer shawls for congregation members. It includes the work of our Faith & Neighboring Practices group, which is headed into our second of two years, learning about ways that our faith shapes and sustains the "liturgy" of neighboring. It includes our Vision & Vocation team, which is hard at work discerning God's call for this next chapter of our life together, a process which we look forward to sharing more with you about in the coming months. It includes the work of WELCA, which fosters fellowship among women in the community through Bible Study and community service. It includes musical ensembles that gather to rehearse during the week so that our Sunday mornings together are even more beautiful and meaningful. It includes serving luncheons to families grieving the loss of a loved one at a funeral. It includes working with our neighbors at CAPI, as we work to make Brooklyn Center a great place for all to live, work, and worship. And of course, it includes less visible work like the care given to our building and grounds, or the care given from one member to another via a phone call. For the things that you do that are named here, and the many more unnamed, THANK YOU.

As these new rhythms begin again this month, we invite you to take part in our shared liturgy, perhaps in a new way this year. As part of God's Work Our Hands Sunday, Rachel will have a "Our Hands" form that we invite you to fill out. On it are a variety of different ways that you are invited to use your hands (and heads and hearts!) for the sake of God's work here at church and in our broader neighborhood. Please stop by and discern where God might be calling you in the liturgy--the holy labor--of our life together. For ALL the ways your hands do God's work in this place, we give thanks!



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 (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 if you'd like to schedule a time.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Fresh Food Fridays at CAPI - Every 2nd and 4th Friday CAPI distributes free fresh produce from its parking lot. They need hands to help throughout the months of September and October. If you're able to help out, sign up at www.capiusa.org.

Senior Luncheons - There's a free senior luncheon every Tuesday at noon at the Crossings at Brookwood. Lunch is followed by fellowship and game time. Tours of the facility are also available. To RSVP for a "Chat & Chowder" luncheon this month, call Diane at 763-561-7405.

Brooklyn Center Farmer's Market - Head over to the parking lot of Brooklyn United Methodist Church (7200 Brooklyn Blvd) for the weekly farmer's market, hosted on Thursdays from 2-7pm.



This fall, COG Bible Study will gather on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am. Join us either onsite or online as we explore the texts assigned for the upcoming Sunday! Our first gathering for the fall will be on Tuesday, Sept 13.



Cross of Glory Activities by COVID-19 Risk Level

HENNEPIN COUNTY RISK PER CDC →	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
Masking	Optional	Optional	Required
Distancing	Optional	Optional	Required
Meals	YES – per Aug 2022 Meals Guidelines	YES – per Aug 2022 Meals Guidelines	Pause (with exception of funeral luncheons arranged during Low/Medium periods)
Musical Ensembles	YES-no restrictions	YES – per Aug 2022 Musical Ensembles policy	Pause
Communion	YES – per Aug 2022 Communion Guidelines	YES – per Aug 2022 Communion Guidelines	YES – per Aug 2022 Communion Guidelines
Sharing the Peace	Greet others at your own comfort level	Greet others at your own comfort level	Distanced gesture of peace
Children's Activities	Masks are optional	Masks are optional	Masks are required





- **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, 4th-5th graders are invited to stick around after worship on the first Sundays of the month for a half hour of pre-confirmation fellowship and activities. Reach out to Rachel in the office (office@crossofglory.us) for more info.
- **Confirmation** - Starting next month, confirmation-aged students (6th-9th grade) are invited to gather on first Wednesdays at 7 pm. Friends are warmly welcome.
- **Adult Helpers Needed** - If you're an adult (parent, grandparent, high school youth member, etc.) who is willing to help out with any of these activities regularly or on occasion, please let Rachel know.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Calling students of all ages - Bring your backpacks (or whatever you lug your homework around in!) and join on Sunday, Sept 18th in worship for a special blessing of the backpacks and small gift from the church as you head into the new school year. (If you're a student but can't make it to worship on this date, let Rachel in the office know and we'll arrange another way to get you your gift).



VBS WAS SUPER!



Last month, COG kids joined kids from our fellow Wildfire churches for a week of joint Vacation Bible School, hosted at Elim Lutheran Church in Robbinsdale. This year's theme was Super Heros, and through music, crafts, games, and Bible Stories, kids explored the ways that God's presence is with us everywhere we go, giving us courage and hope (kaboom!). Thanks to all COG kids, families, and adult leaders who took part and made the week such a blast!

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday



Sept. 11
2022

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS SUNDAY

Sunday, Sept 11th is just around the corner! This year, as we celebrate God's Work Our Hands Sunday, Barbara Sahr is organizing a morning full of ways to do God's work with our hands. First, there will be a congregation-led worship service, in which you are invited to take part in worship in ways big and small--from creating art for the cover of the bulletin to leading a children's sermon, singing with the worship team or choir to carrying in the cross. (If you haven't yet signed up to help with a piece of the service, there's still time). Then, after worship, there will be a ministry fair, a chance to learn about the various ministries in our church community and how you can get involved (to register your team/ committee/ ministry, contact Barbara if you haven't already). After that, we'll have a potluck lunch, so bring a dish to share. If you're interested in taking part in the day, email Barbara at barbara.henke14@gmail.com or call the church office ASAP! We look forward to worshipping together on the 11th as we open our hands to doing God's work here at Cross of Glory!

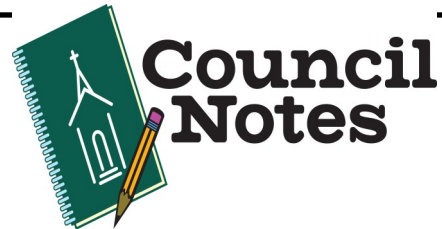
COG CARE MINISTRY

The Cross of Glory care & visitation team is up and running. Visitors are now regularly checking 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 simply be a phone call to check in. If you're interested in receiving a visit, or being part of our care and visitation team, let Pastor Ali know.



Worship

- September 4—
Greeters: Audrey Retrum and Delores Olson
Reader: Dan Aulwes
Communion: Verle Smith, Sue and Bruce Vukelich
- September 11—
Greeters: Josephine Cook and Arlene Kosek
Reader: Kris Simon
- September 18—
Greeters: Linda Knudsen and Judy Lewis
Reader: Dawn Bailey
- September 25—
Greeters: Ron and Lois Tollefsrud
Reader: Lois Tollefsrud
- October 2—
Greeter: Judy Olson and Tom Simon
Reader: Kim Jacobson
Communion: Lois Tollefsrud, Judy Olson and Arlene Kosek



Council Notes

SummerFest gathering on Saturday, July 23 was well attended with lots of activities for adults and children several booths set up from various organizations. Most activities had to be moved inside due to increment weather. Will definitely do again. 7th Day Adventists will be moving out of Bethel Room into smaller space upstairs as they don't need that much space, possibly the Library or old Kid Zone room. We have decided not to have a church directory with photos done professionally but will do in house photos instead. We will start taking photos after the Rally Sunday service on Sept 11.
 -Judy Lewis Council President

SUBMIT A PRAYER REQUEST ANYTIME

Did you know? You can submit a prayer request at any time through the Cross of Glory website. You may keep it confidential, and it will be directed to Pastor Ali, or you can opt to share it with the Prayer Chain, a community of people at Cross of Glory who will commit to holding your request in prayer. Visit <http://crossofglory.us/contactus.html> to submit a request anytime. Email Rachel to be added to the Prayer Chain.

Today's Date:

First Name: *

Last Name: *

E-mail: *

Phone:

Your Message or Prayer Request: *

Private to Pastoral staff



Thank you for all your prayers, cards, and messages before and after my surgery. I appreciate it so much!
 Gayle Merritt



THINGS ARE GROWING IN THE COMMUNITY GARDEN!

Thanks to all the green-thumbed folks who tended the community garden boxes this summer. We've got green zucchini, yellow zucchini, cabbage, tomatoes, jalapenos, red peppers, green beans, pumpkins, squash, and more. If you haven't been back to the gardens (on the corner of Admiral and Ewing) recently, go check them out!



GATHER BIBLE STUDY will meet **September 21st** at 1pm in the church Fellowship Hall. Bring your own drink, snack and a friend. All women are welcome. Copies of the Bible Study are available if needed. A microphone will be used.

FALL 2022 BIBLE STUDY: Jesus and nature: Teachers of Faith by the Rev. Sara Olson-Smith

Jesus often turned to natural world in teaching, opening our eyes to see creation not just as something to be cared for, but as our teacher and kindred. This three-session Bible study will shift our perspectives and allow nature to be our teacher, through the words of Jesus and other parts of Scripture. The trees, the soil and the creatures will offer us new perspectives on the character of God and challenge us to deepen our stewardship of God's precious creation.

Thanks to the Women of the ELCA (WELCA) group for organizing the school supply drive throughout the month of August. We recently got to share boxes full of supplies with our neighbors at Progeny Academy, which will help get the students off to a great start to their school year. Thanks to all who donated supplies and funds!

