

---

# *The Glory Banner*

---

*Cross of Glory Lutheran Church (ELCA)  
A Wildfire Congregation  
February 2021*

---



***“You are dust, and to dust you shall return.”*** Genesis 3:19  
Art Credit: *Ash Wednesday Cross* © Jan Richardson

## **From the Pastor...**

We soon begin the season of Lent, yet another season of the church year in which, due to the ongoing pandemic, we find ourselves physically separated from one another. We lament the ways that this pandemic continues to cut us off from community. This Lent, we will focus on the theme of "separation." As we enter into this time of reflection and repentance, you are invited to join us for Lenten worship services, rituals, prayer, and a spiritual practice. Below is more information about ways you can take part. Even while we're separated, I look forward to embarking on this Lenten journey *together*,

*Pastor Ali*

Lent 2021

# separation

## Cross of Glory Lutheran

Lutheran theologian Paul Tillich defined sin as the "act of separation." This Lent, you're invited to join the Cross of Glory community as we reflect on the ways we separate ourselves from God, creation, and our neighbors, and as we continue to lament the ways that the Covid-19 pandemic has separated us physically. Here's how you can take part:

### Sundays

---

- 2/21** - Introduction
- 2/28** - Separation from God
- 3/7** - Separation from creation
- 3/14** - Separation from the other
- 3/21** - Separation from one another

### Wednesdays

Every Wednesday at noon, join us on Zoom for 15 minutes of prayer and Holy Communion. Member ID: 8025025123, password: 433131.



### Ash Wednesday

On 2/17, join us on Zoom at noon for a short Ash Wednesday liturgy, & stop by our front door between 4-6 pm for a drive-by imposition of ashes and a blessing.

### Spiritual Practice

You're invited to notice the crosses in the "sanctuaries" of your home or work. Take a photo of the crosses you find and send them to Pr Ali ([atranvik@crossofglory.us](mailto:atranvik@crossofglory.us)) to be shown in worship each week.



## **Crosses in our Homes**

In our Christian faith, the cross is a symbol of both our sin and God's grace. This Lenten season, we invite you to reflect on the cross through a spiritual practice you can do from the comfort and convenience of home.

During the pandemic, we are all worshipping from our own home, our safe place, our sanctuary, as it were. So, our homes have become our literal sanctuaries. As you look around your home, you may notice crosses. They can be actual crosses, or they may be items in your home that form the shape of a cross—a cupboard door, or a shadow created through a window. You are invited to reflect on the ways that crosses show up in your daily life, a reminder that everywhere we look, there is sin, and everywhere we look, there is grace.

Photograph these cross shapes to share with all of us! Send any pictures you take to Pastor Ali, [atranvik@crossofglory.us](mailto:atranvik@crossofglory.us), and a few will be shown each Sunday in our recorded worship service. Thanks for taking part in this communal spiritual practice!

*Julie Aulwes*

Worship Music Arts Committee



## Council Corner

Thanks to all who took part in our Pre-Annual Meeting on January 24 and our Annual Meeting on January 31. The 2021 budget passed and Council members and nominees were unanimously re-elected and elected. If you are interested in viewing a recording of either meeting, or a copy of the Annual Report, please reach out to the church office.

## Join us for a Conversation about Payday Lending

If you're interested in learning more about payday lending and how we as a faith community can take part in working for more just lending practices in our Brooklyn Center community, join Cross of Glory and other Wildfire churches on Saturday, March 6th from 10-11:30 am for a virtual panel conversation. Zoom link and more information forthcoming. Please reach out to [mikemc5751@outlook.com](mailto:mikemc5751@outlook.com) with questions.

*Mike McClanahan*

Justice for All Committee

## Poehler Lecture

Keith J. Williams has been asked to present this year's Poehler Lecture at Concordia University. (He was actually asked to do this last year, but Covid....) This is the highest honor that CSP gives to its faculty members. The mission of the lecture is to focus on the theme of faith and education.

Keith is preparing a wide-ranging presentation bouncing from storytelling, to poetry, to thoughts from the potters wheel.

Please set aside Tuesday night, March 16. Attendance on campus will be limited, but it will be live online!

Keith hopes that his Dixieland band will play at 6:15ish and then the presentation will go from 7-8PM. He thinks it would be great to have his church home be a part of the celebration. Please mark your calendars.



## **Covid-19 Task Force Update**

Things have changed for the better! Groups of 10 or fewer are able to meet in the church building in the Fellowship Hall, entry Living Room area, and Sanctuary while following Building Entry Policy guidelines and sanitizing areas before and after use. Sanitizing supplies are available at the Information Center. Please schedule meetings ahead of time through the church office.

Worship Services will continue to be virtual at this time.

Hennepin County 14-day positive case counts dropped to 25.43 in late January, allowing us to move to Level 2 of our COVID Preparedness & Response Plan. For more information, visit the COVID-19 Info page on our web site, [crossofglory.us](http://crossofglory.us)

## WOMEN of the ELCA



### FEBRUARY Bible Study Repentance and route-changing angels FOCUS VERSE Luke 15:10

In Session two we examine some of the biblical stories of angels who accompany, confront, or even push people into new directions.

#### SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT . . .

"The best apology is a change of behavior."

Anonymous (from the February *Gather*) Jackie



Thank you so much for all the good wishes I have received these past weeks and for the visit by Pastor Tranvik. Your love and encouragement are appreciated so much!

*Mavis Wold*



## **Easter Lily Garden: In Celebration, In Honor, In Memory**

**Worship, Music and Arts Committee invites you to honor loved ones, both living and passed, with sanctuary flowers for the Easter service. This year we will only provide Easter Lilies for the display for the Zoom service. Lilies are \$15.00 each. You can pick up your flower between Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> between 9:00am-3:00pm. If you want the flower donated instead of picking it up, please indicate that on the form. Last day to order is March 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**PLEASE PRINT  
(CUT AND MAIL BACK TO CHURCH OFFICE)**

**Please circle one:**

**In Celebration of      In Honor of      In Memory of**

---

**Given by \_\_\_\_\_**

**Phone # \_\_\_\_\_**

**\$15.00 per plant (check enclosed) \_\_\_\_\_**

**OR pay by credit card on COG Website \_\_\_\_\_**

**I want to pick up my plant \_\_\_\_\_**

**I want to donate my plant \_\_\_\_\_**

