

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

envelopes, keep checking back at the welcome desk for yours in the coming days, and feel free to call the office with any questions. Fourth quarter giving statements from 2023 will be available soon at the welcome desk as well.

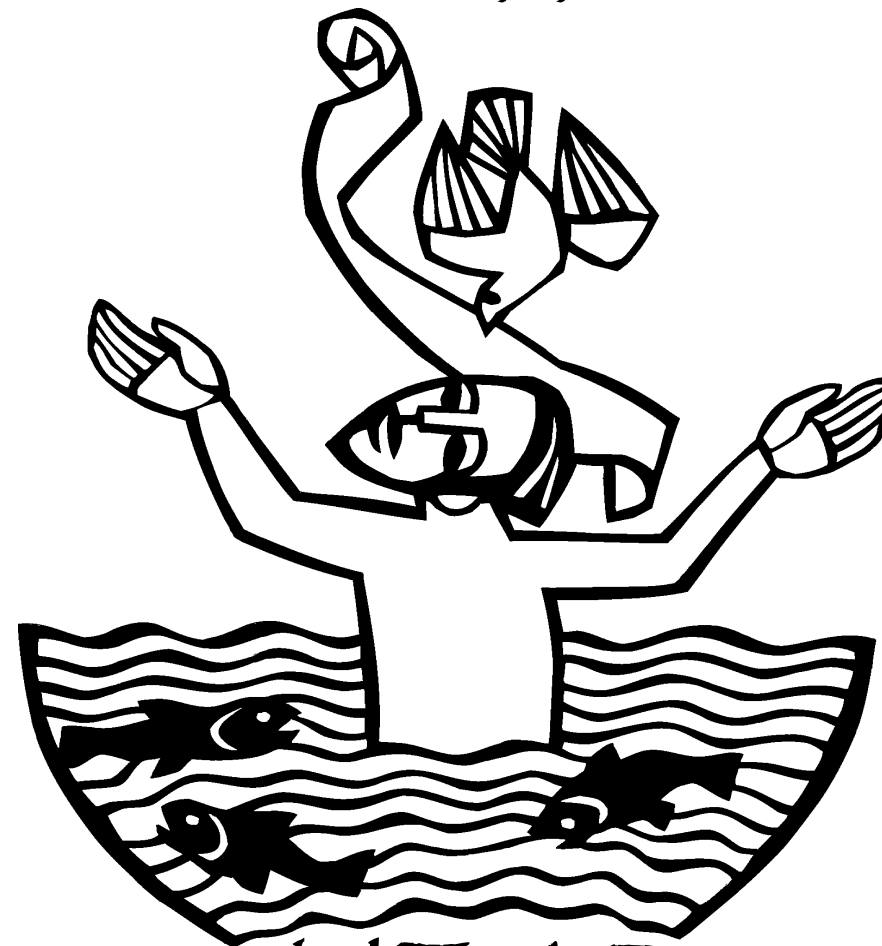
•**Welcoming Guest Preacher**- Next Sunday January 14, we are excited to welcome Rev. Ian McConnell as our Guest preacher who will exploring with us the sense of sight.

•**Bible Study** - The CoG Bible Study resumes with our regular weekly rhythm on Tues, Jan 9 at 9:30 am onsite and online.

•**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 worshiping with us! Welcome. If you're interested in learning more about life together at COG, reach out to Pastor Ali (atranvik@crossofglory.us).

The First Sunday After Epiphany



HEAR

January 7, 2024

**Cross of Glory Lutheran Church
Brooklyn Center, MN**

EPIPHANY: A SEASON FOR ALL OUR SENSES

Epiphany is a season in which we're called to pay attention to the God who's alive among us, a season of exclaiming "aha" (having epiphanies!) as we discover God's presence made manifest in the world. And we're called to tend to that divine presence with all our senses--to listen for God, look for God, even smell God and taste God, to touch God. Through different scriptural stories, we're exploring one sense each week in Epiphany, reflecting on how we may use it as we seek to witness God in and all around us:

Jan 7: Hear | Jan 14: See | Jan 21: Smell | Jan 28: Taste | Feb 4: Touch

God's presence, born to us in Jesus Christ on Christmas, continues to dwell in our midst. We're grateful for your presence in worship as we seek to encounter the living God together!

Gathering

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Word made flesh.

All: Amen.

L: Trusting the grace and goodness of our embodied God, let us confess our sin:

Silence is kept for reflection and repentance

L: God of life,

A: You call us to bear witness to your presence with our whole being. Yet our ears refuse to hear your voice in the cries of the poor and hungry in our midst, our eyes are fixated on our own gain rather than the needs of our neighbor, our noses fail to smell the sweetness and abundance of your creation, our mouths refuse to speak words of truth and justice in the face of indifference and cruelty, our hands are afraid to extend to the wounded, and our feet, to venture into places of uncertainty. Forgive us, gracious God, and fill us with your Spirit, that we might encounter your life-giving presence made manifest all around us.

L: Hear this good news of great joy: out of God's boundless love and compassion, God has become human, to be with us in this wounded world, so that we can love it with everything we've got. In the name of Jesus Christ † you are forgiven and freed to live in the light of God. Amen.

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

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

•**Coffee Hour** - Please join us after worship in the fellowship hall for a time of food and fellowship.

•**Annual Congregational Meeting & Potluck Lunch** - On Sunday, Jan 28th, all Cross of Glory members are invited to take part in our annual meeting onsite or online. The meeting will take place in the sanctuary immediately following worship. Stick around for a celebratory potluck lunch to follow (and bring a dish to share! Sign-up at the Welcome Desk).

•**Annual Reports** - All staff and committee chairs are invited to submit annual reports to Rachel by Jan 14. Annual reports will be available to pick up on Sunday, Jan 21, or anytime during the week (M-W 10-2) ahead of the meeting on Jan 28.

•**Neighborhood Listening Session** - As we work to discern what God's call to life together looks like at CoG, we're gathering with neighbors from the BC community once a month for a Listening Session. Join us from 5:30-6:30 pm on Jan 17 as we share a meal and get to know our neighbor(hood)! This month's session will feature those who work in BC schools. Please come as you're able, and RSVP to Isak Tranvik by Jan 15.

•**WinterFest** - Mark your calendars for Fri, Jan 26 from 5-7 pm when we'll join together with CAPI to host WinterFest, a neighborhood block party celebration that includes free food, music, covid and flu vaccines, games for kids, a winter clothing distribution, and more! If you're able to lend a hand, let the office know ASAP.

•**Winter Clothing Drive** - We'll be distributing winter clothing (new or gently used coats, hats, scarves, mittens, etc.) to neighbors at WinterFest. Please drop off donations anytime between now and Jan 26 in the box near the welcome desk. Thank you!

•**CoG Kids** -Please note that due to winter break, first Wednesday activities have been moved back a week this month. So this coming Wed 1/10, all are welcome to join us for a meal at 5:30 pm. At 6 pm, older children are invited to Study Buddies (homework help) and younger children for Storytime, and games in the gym begin at 6:30. Confirmation starts at 7 pm for children ages 6th-8th grade. Reach out to Kris Simon or Chellie Sebald with questions.

•**2024 Giving Envelopes & 2023 End-of-Year Statements** - 2024 offering envelopes continue to be prepared in alphabetical order. If you've requested



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
Loved ones of Richard Kosek
Loved ones of Debbie Sjoquist
Julie Aulwes
Claudia Reitan*

*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.*

MUSIC

Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn

#242

Verse 1

Awake! Awake,
and greet the new morn,
for angels herald its dawning.
Sing out your joy,
for now he is born,
behold! the Child of our longing.
Come as a baby weak and poor,
to bring all hearts together,
he opens wide the heav'nly door
and lives now inside us forever.

Verse 3

In darkest night
his coming shall be,
when all the world is despairing,
as morning light so quiet and free,
so warm and gentle and caring.
Then shall the mute
break forth in song,

*** Please be seated ***

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

P: Let us pray together...

A: Creator God, in the Jordan River, you proclaimed your son Jesus "beloved." In the waters of our everyday lives, give us--your sons and daughters--ears to hear you speak these same words to us. In the name of the one who speaks life and love into being, we pray. Amen.

Word

FIRST READING

Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Leader: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Psalms 29

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name;
worship the Lord in holy splendour.
The voice of the Lord is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the Lord, over mighty waters.
The voice of the Lord is powerful;
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.
The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.
The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.
The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl,
and strips the forest bare;
and in his temple all say, 'Glory!'
The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as king for ever.
May the Lord give strength to his people!
May the Lord bless his people with peace!

Leader: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF GOOD COURAGE

Please rise as you're able and face the back doors as we prepare to go into the world with good courage. You're also invited to join hands with or put your hand on a neighbor near you as a reminder that we do not go forth alone.

**ALL: 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!**

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace...listen for the Good News!

A: 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.

Sundays and Seasons © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #024779. All rights reserved

CCLI License #2215024

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Ali Tranvik

Director of Choirs: Keith J. Williams

Worship & Tech Director: Mark Trease

Vocalists: Erik Haugland, Eric Thompson,

Kim Jacobson, Becca Floyd, Johnetta

Freeman

Guitar: Steve Sebald, Josh Smith

Technical Team: The Bailey Family

Greeters: Sharon Quick & Judy Lewis

Reader: Sharon Quick

Communion: Sharon Quick, Judy Lewis,

Gayle Merritt

Ushers: Don Halverson, Cheryl

Anderson, Josh Day, Dan Aulwes

Fellowship: Dave Hengel & Dan

Jacobson

Ministers: The People of Cross of Glory

MUSIC

Come to the Table

Cloninger/ Nystrom

Verse

Come to the table of mercy
Prepared with the wine
and the bread
All who are hungry and thirsty
Come and your souls will be fed

Chorus

Come at the Lord's invitation
Receive from His nail-scarred hand
Eat of the bread of salvation
Drink of the blood of the Lamb

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

O God, at this table, we have heard, seen, smelled, touched, and tasted your presence in our midst. May our bodies, fed and nourished at this table, live now as the body of Christ in the world. Amen.

Sending

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSIC

I'm Listening

Cowart/McClarney/Bronleewe

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

Verse 1

When You speak confusion fades
Just a word
and suddenly I'm not afraid
'Cause You speak
and freedom reigns
There is hope
in every single word You say

Chorus

I don't wanna miss one word
You speak
'Cause everything You say
is life to me
I don't wanna miss one word
You speak
Quiet my heart I'm listening

Verse 2

When sorrows roll
and troubles rage
You whisper peace
when I don't have the words to say
I won't lose hope
when storms won't break
You keep Your word
And Your promises will
keep me safe

Bridge

Your ways are higher
You know just what I need
I trust You Jesus
You see what I cannot see (*repeat*)

CHOIR ANTHEM

GOSPEL READING

Mark 1:4-11

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

P: The Gospel according to Mark the first chapter.

ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

Leader: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you O Christ.

SERMON AND BAPTISMAL BLESSING

During the baptismal blessing time, you will be invited to come forward to the baptismal font for a blessing--a cross marked with water on your forehead, a reminder of your belovedness. If you wish to come forward, please make your way as the Spirit moves you to the center aisle and up to the front, where the baptismal font is located. If you do not wish to receive this blessing, you're welcome to remain seated and pray or reflect while the music is playing.

MUSIC **Word of God Come Down to Earth** **#510**

Verse 1
Word of God, come down on earth,
living rain from heav'n descending;
touch our hearts and bring to birth
faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere you;
Word made flesh,
we long to hear you.

crucified for our salvation,
saving Word, the world restoring,
speak to us, your love outpouring.

Verse 2
Word eternal, throned on high,
Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heav'n to die,

Verse 3
Word that speaks
God's tender love,
one with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above
God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us;
Word of life,
with one bread feed us.

REFLECTION

***Where/when have you heard God? ***

MUSIC **Open My Eyes** **Manibusan**

Verse 1
Open my eyes Lord
Help me to see Your face
Open my eyes Lord
Help me to see

Bridge
And the first shall be last
And our eyes are opened
And we'll hear like never before
And we'll speak in new ways
And we'll see God's face
In places we've never known

Verse 2
Open my ears Lord
Help me to hear Your voice
Open my ears Lord
Help me to hear

Verse 4
I live within you
Deep in your heart O love
I live within you
Rest now in me

Verse 3
Open my heart Lord
Help me to love like You
Open my heart Lord
Help me to love

HOLY COMMUNION

Come to the table, where God's gifts of grace and love are poured out for all, and where all are welcome. If you're worshiping onsite, you're invited to come forward when an usher cues your row. You'll be offered bread from the first server (gluten-free options available upon request), and wine from the second server (grape juice available upon request). If you'd like to take communion in your seat, simply cue an usher and we'd be glad to bring it to you.

The body of Christ is given for you. **Amen.**
The blood of Christ is shed for you. **Amen.**

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

MUSIC **Behold the Lamb** **Getty/Getty/Townsend**

Verse 1
Behold the Lamb who
bears our sins away
Slain for us and we remember
The promise made
that all who come in faith
Find forgiveness at the cross
So we share in this Bread of Life
And we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of peace
Around the table of the King

Verse 3
The blood that cleanses
every stain of sin
Shed for you drink and remember
He drained death's cup
that all may enter in
To receive the life of God
So we share in this Bread of Life
And we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of grace
Around the table of the King

Verse 2
The body of our
Saviour Jesus Christ
Torn for you eat and remember
The wounds that heal
the death that brings us life
Paid the price to make us one
So we share in this Bread of Life
And we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of love
Around the table of the King

Verse 4
And so with thankfulness
and faith we rise
To respond and to remember
Our call to follow
in the steps of Christ
As His body here on earth
As we share in His suffering
We proclaim Christ will come again
And we'll join in the feast of heaven
Around the table of the King

2. *Come forward to hang your star on the Christmas tree, and before you return to your seat, take the prayer of someone else from the tree.*
3. *Return to your seat, and spend the remaining prayer time offering a silent prayer to God about the prayer of your neighbor.*
4. *You may also take the star home with you this week to continue praying.*
Tip: keep it in a place--fridge, car, backpack, pocket, purse, etc.--where you'll see it often and be reminded to keep lifting up your neighbor's prayer in your own!

P: Let us pray:

God of light,

P: As we journey, **A: guide us.**

As we struggle, **accompany us.**

As we stray, **lead us home by another way.**

As we wonder where to find you, **surprise us.**

Be our awakening. **Be our epiphany.**

Form us as we pray:

Table

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

P: At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

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

The Spirit moves through the offering we joyfully share. We invite you to leave an offering in the plates or scan the QR code here to make a secure, online gift. Thank you!



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Throughout the season of Epiphany, we invite you to take part in the Prayers of the People. Here's how:

1. *Take a paper star (located at the end of your pew) and write a prayer on it--a prayer for yourself, the church, the neighborhood, the world, or those in need. You may sign your name or leave it anonymous.*