

•**WinterFest + Clothing Drive** - We're collecting winter clothing items to distribute to neighbors at WinterFest, a neighborhood gathering hosted by Cross of Glory and CAPI that will take place on Fri, Jan 10 from 5-7 pm. New or gently used winter gear can be donated at the drop-off bin near the Welcome Desk. AND...if you're interested in lending a hand at WinterFest (greeting neighbors, serving hot chocolate, etc.), sign up at the Welcome Desk or let Pastor Ali know asap!

•**Sock Drive** - Renee and Archer Dahl are collecting new socks until the end of February to distribute to the North Memorial Care Cart. A donation box will be placed at the Welcome desk. All sizes welcomed.

•**CoG Kids** - Join us for a Godly Play story--this month, told as part of worship! --on Sunday, Jan 5th. Please note that First Wednesday activities are moved to the second Wed of the month, Jan 8th, due to winter break scheduling. We look forward to seeing you at 5 for games, 5:30 for the community meal, 6 for activities, and 7 for confirmation.

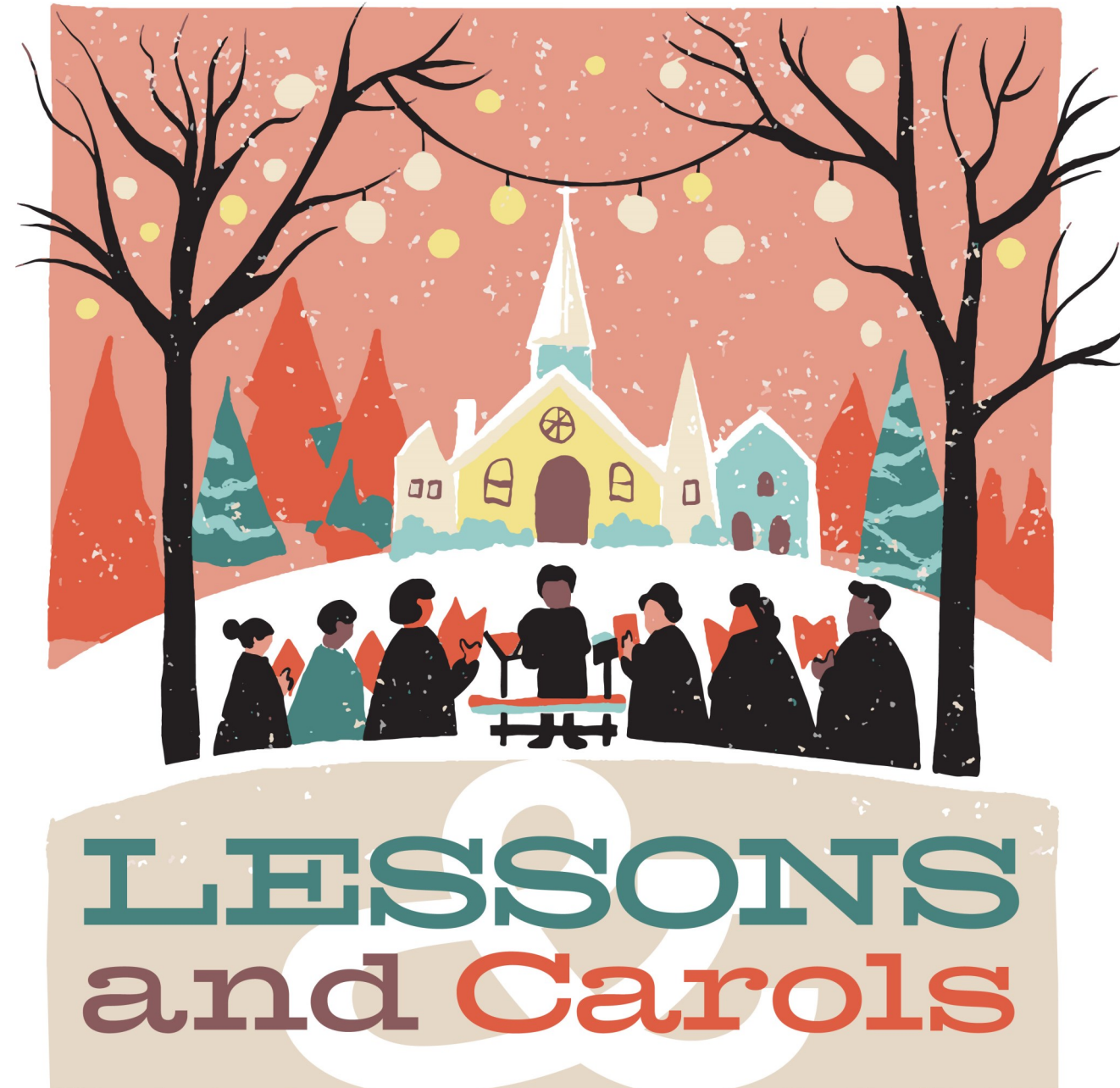
•**Art Gallery Talk** - Next Sunday, Jan 5th after worship, Keith Williams will be leading an art talk about the new exhibit in our art gallery. The new exhibition in the gallery is a collection of prints produced by the Concordia University Art Department made over the last 35 years. Cross of Glory is now the owner of a collection of about 20 fine art prints due to a donation from a member.

•**Christmas Garden** - Thanks to all those who have adorned the sanctuary with poinsettias for Christmas. We invite you to pick yours up after worship today. Any plants left in the sanctuary will be delivered to those on our visitation list.

•**On-call pastoral care** - Pastor Ali will be out of town this next week (back next Sunday). If any emergency pastoral care needs arise, please be in touch with our office to be connected with an on-call pastor.

•**Wildfire Youth Trip** - Wildfire churches are joining together for a high school youth summer trip to Lutheridge Camp in Asheville, NC July 20-25. Lutheridge is partnering with Lutheran Disaster Response to help with recovery efforts from Hurricane Helene. If CoG youth are interested, please let Pastor Ali know by the end of January.

•**Pastoral Care & Visitation** - If you're in need of care, prayer, or conversation, reach out to the office to be connected with the pastor or our Care & Visitation Team. We also invite you to stop by our Community Prayer Wall located just outside the sanctuary.



LESSONS and Carols

December 29, 2024

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME

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

Leader: Into the forgotten places,

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

into the lives of the poor, bringing bread,

Come, Lord Jesus.

into the lives of the powerful, bringing warning,

Come, Lord Jesus.

into the lives of the weary, bringing rest,

Come, Lord Jesus.

into the lives of the wise, bringing restlessness,

Come, Lord Jesus.

into the lives of the afraid, bringing good courage,

Come, Lord Jesus.

into the lives of the despairing, bringing hope,

Come, Lord Jesus.

and into all our lives and longings,

Come, Lord Jesus.

The angels proclaimed, the shepherds heard, a mother bore a child,
God's love is born.

God's love is born for you and for me. Amen!

CAROL

Love Has Come

#292 vss 1-3

Verse 1

Love has come

—a light in the darkness!

Love shines forth

in the Bethlehem skies.

See, all heaven

has come to proclaim it;

Hear how their song of joy arises:

Love! Love!

Born unto you, a Savior!

Love! Love!

Glory to God on high.

Verse 2

Love is born!

Come, share in the wonder.

Love is God now asleep in the hay.

See the glow

in the eyes of his mother;

what is the name

her heart is saying?

Love! Love!

Love is the name she whispers;

Love! Love!

Jesus, Immanuel.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Ali Tranvik

Director of Choirs: Keith J. Williams

Worship & Tech Director: Mark Trease

Guest Organist: Allan Mahnke

Pianist: Kris Simon

Violinist: Pastor Ali Tranvik

Vocalists: Ruth Brateng, Kris Simon

Greeters: Wendy and Bryan Toenies

Reader: Mike McClanahan

Children's Message: Kris Simon

Ushers: Tom Simon, Cheryl Anderson, Don Halverson, Josh Day

Fellowship: Cheryl Anderson

Technical Team: Ryan Bailey, Dawn Bailey & Bill Bailey

Ministers: The people of Cross of Glory



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

*Mavis Wold
Norma Gilbertson
Audrey Swanberg
Jeannie Kuzmich*

*Eric Thompson & family
Luella Hinnenkamp
The Sahar family*

*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.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

•**Coffee Fellowship** - All are welcome to a time of food and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall following worship.

•**Hands Needed TODAY AND TOMORROW** - We will be sanding and painting window sills/trim in Progeny classrooms as well as removing/replacing carpet in classrooms. If you can help with these projects, please talk to Gayle Merritt after worship or send an email to facilities@crossofglory.us.

(Continued)

BLESSING

May you be filled with the hope of the prophets, wonder of Mary, the compassion of Joseph, the curiosity of the shepherds, the joy of the angels, and the everlasting peace of Jesus who is Savior, † Christ, and Lord. **Amen.**

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

CAROL Joy To the World #267

Verse 1

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n
and nature sing.

Verse 3

No more let sin and sorrow grow
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his
blessings flow

far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

Verse 4

He rules the world
with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders,
wonders of his love.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is born!
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

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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Verse 3

Love has come
And never will leave us!
Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us.
Love is the peace

*** Please be seated ***

our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love!
Love is the gift of Christmas.
Love! Love!
Praise to you, God on high!

CONFESSION + FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose steadfast love is everlasting. **Amen.**

Let's take a moment of silence to confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for confession.

P:God-With-Us,

All: we confess that we have failed to live in your love. We have rejected those seeking shelter, claiming there is no room when we have plenty. We have turned away from the lowly and downtrodden in whom you dwell. We have made power and wealth our idols, while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger. In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins--those we know and those known only to you--for the sake of the one who came to live among us, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

P: Rejoice in this good news: You are God's children, holy and beloved, † forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy.

A: Thanks be to God! Amen.

CAROL Good Christian Friends, Rejoice #288

Verse 1

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before him bow,
And he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

Verse 3

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice:
Now ye need not fear the grave;
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
To gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together...

God of love and life, you have come to us in the birth of Jesus, moving into the neighborhood, moving into our hearts. Renew us and your whole creation. Be born in us anew – casting out sin, injustice, and despair. In the name of Emmanuel, God with us, we pray. Amen.

BAPTISM OF DELIGHT AND EMMALINE BOAKAI

The baptismal family is invited to gather around the baptismal font. The congregation is invited to rise and face the font.

Leader: Today we celebrate the baptism of the children of Denia Boakai, Delight and Emmaline. God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Leader: Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Delight and Emmaline baptized into Christ? If so, please respond by saying "I do."

Parents: I do.

L: As you bring Delight and Emmaline to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

To live with these children among God's faithful people, bring them to the word of God and the holy supper, teach them the Lord's prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in their hands the holy scriptures, and nurture her faith and prayer, so that she may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help Delight and Emmaline grow in the Christian faith and life? If so, please respond by saying "I do."

Parents: I do.

L: Sponsor, do you promise to nurture Delight and Emmaline in the Christian faith, as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church? If so, please respond by saying "I do."

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, let us pray the prayer that Jesus taught us:

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.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

Pastor: We rejoice in the opportunity to welcome new member Denia Boakai into our life together here at Cross of Glory!

P: In response to God's love and grace you are joining with us in this community of faith today, and we are so delighted to welcome you! We ask you now, as you live out these same baptismal vocations as God's people, in this place and in the world, will you: trust in God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care of others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace? If so, please respond "I will, and I ask God to help and guide me"

New member: I will, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: People of Cross of Glory, I ask you now will you support this new member in our faith community and share with them God's wide welcome in shared life together? If so, please respond, "We will and we ask God to help and guide us."

Congregation: We will, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: Let us pray: We thank you, God, for this new member of our congregation. Bind us to each other in you and empower us for service, that together we would be witness to your love of the world.

ALL: Amen.

*** The congregation is invited to welcome our newest member with a round of applause ***

bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Leader: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION

SPECIAL MUSIC Light Dawns on a Weary World

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.

OFFERING

God's love 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, so that we might share God's love here in our congregation and throughout the wider community. Thank you!



SPECIAL MUSIC Away in a Manger

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*** Between each petition***

Leader: God Emmanuel...

ALL: Hear our prayer.

Sponsors: I do.

Leader: People of Cross of Glory, do you promise to support Delight and Emmaline and pray for them in their new life in Christ? If so, please respond by saying "we do."

All: We do.

Leader: Parents and sponsors, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? If so, please respond by saying "we renounce them."

Parents and Sponsors: We renounce them.

L: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Parents and Sponsors: We renounce them.

Leader: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Parents and Sponsors: We renounce them.

L: With the whole church, let us confess our faith. Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**All: 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.**

L: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**All: 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.**

At this time, any kids worshipping with us today are invited to come gather around the front of the baptismal font for a close-up view!

HOLY BAPTISM

Leader: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led you your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river, your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you. Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life.

All: Amen.

Leader: Delight, I baptize you in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

L: Delight, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

All: Amen.

Leader: Emmaline, I baptize you in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

L: Emmaline, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

All: Amen.

Leader: We give you thanks, O God that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Delight and Emmaline with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Sponsor is invited to light the baptismal candle.

Leader: At this time, we present Delight and Emmaline with the baptismal candle.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Leader: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

MUSIC

Rejoice, Rejoice Believers

#244

Verse 1

Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
and let your lights appear;
the evening is advancing,
and darker night is near.

The bridegroom is arising
and soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;
at midnight comes the cry.

Verse 3

The saints, who here in patience
their cross and sufferings bore,
shall live and reign forever
when sorrow is no more.

Around the throne of glory
the Lamb they shall behold;
in triumph cast before him
their diadems of gold.

Verse 4

Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
arise, O Sun so longed for,
o'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted,
we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption
that sets your people free!

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:8-20

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am

