

CROSSROADS
Atonement Lutheran Church
Cross of Glory Lutheran Church
Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey



December 28, 2025
First Sunday of Christmas
Lessons and Carols
9:30am at Atonement



CROSSROADS PARISH



**Proud to be a Reconciling
In Christ Community**

Three Churches, One Big Community In Faith. All Are Welcome



**ATONEMENT
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
New Brighton, MN



**CROSS OF GLORY
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
Mounds View, MN



**IGLESIA LUTERANA
CRISTO REY**
Crossroads Parish

Atonement Lutheran Church

1980 Silver Lake Road NW
New Brighton, MN 55112
651-633-2240
AtonementNB.org
Worship at 10:45am

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

5472 Adams Street
Mounds View, MN 55112
763-784-2528
CrossofGloryMV.org
Worship at 8:30am

Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey

Pastora Ana Becerra
1980 Silver Lake Rd NW
New Brighton, MN 55112
763-225-7079
Servicio en Español al mediodía

THANK YOU TO OUR STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

Pastor Cassie Nault
Pastora Ana Becerra
Ivan Konev – Cross of Glory Accompanist
Matt Verkuilen/ Jon Thomalla – Audio/Visual
Marilyn Goldsworthy - Sunday School
Maani Grace – Crossroads Music Coordinator

Deacon Brad Mills
Dawn Saros-Kirk – Office Administrator
Debora Holmes – Atonement Accompanist
Tony Houfek/Alice Sponholz – Audio/Visual
Dani Gow – Youth Group

| | 9:30 at Atonement | |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| WORSHIP ASSISTANT | Dawn Saros-Kirk | |
| LECTOR | Bruce Jahnke | |
| USHER/ACOLYTE | Linda Radtke/Carol Hoiby | |
| GREETER | Dawn Saros-Kirk | |
| BREAD BAKER | Andrea Weatherly | |
| COMMUNION SETUP/CLEANUP | Carol Hoiby | |
| COMMUNION SERVERS | Gwen Lentsch, Carol Hoiby/Dawn Saros-Kirk | |
| COUNTERS | ALC: Gwen Blomseth, Sally Kline | COG: Patsy Thorsbakken, TBD |

We acknowledge that we gather as Atonement and Cross of Glory Lutheran Churches on the traditional land of the Wahpekute, a band of the Dakota and one of the seven groups of Oceti Sakowin, translated as “the Seven Councils Fire”, also referred to as the Great Sioux Nation as well as Anishinaabe people and other indigenous nations who have called this land home. We further acknowledge that both the State of Minnesota and the United States Government carried out genocide, ethnic cleansing, forced removal and broken promises against indigenous people as a way to acquire land. This calls us to commit to learning how to be better stewards of the land and to support indigenous communities.

ORDER OF SERVICE

TRINITY CHIMES

The singing bowl rings out 3 times to remind us we are gathered in the name of the Triune God.

WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP (Please read responsively)

Children of God, Jesus Christ is born!

All: God has come to make a home among us!

Yet the story is not over. After birth comes the ordinary and mundane growing, maturing, and discovering, even for the Christ Child.

All: In the ordinary and mundane, God has come to make a home among us.

And sometimes, in the midst of the everyday, something surprising happens, and we discover anew just what God is up to in our midst.

All: In the surprising and spectacular, God has come to make a home among us.

Children of God, let us worship the God who dwells with us in all things and all seasons.

All: We come to make our home with God who makes a home among us. Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Methodist Discipleship Ministries, June 2024.

FIRST LESSON: GENESIS 3:8-15, 17-19

⁸They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰ He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." ¹¹ He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹² The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." ¹³ Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." ¹⁴ The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

¹⁷ Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth—so that they may abound on the earth and be fruitful and multiply on the earth." ¹⁸ So Noah went out with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. ¹⁹ And every animal, every creeping thing, and every bird, everything that moves on the earth, went out of the ark by families.

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" vv. 1-2

ELW 254

SECOND LESSON: GENESIS 22:15-18

¹⁵ The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶ and said, “By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, ¹⁸ and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.”

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” vv. 1-2

ELW 257

THIRD LESSON: ISAIAH 9:2, 6-7

[a]The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. ⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Great will be his authority, [c]and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

FOURTH LESSON: ISAIAH 11:1-4a

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ² The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³ His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth.

PRAYER

Let us pray: Most Holy God, the prophets announced a time of peace that would come in your reign. Help us to be peacemakers on this earth as you send your Spirit among us and open our eyes to look for the fulfillment of your promises made known in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” vv. 1-4

ELW 279

FIFTH LESSON: LUKE 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

“Once In Royal David’s City” vv. 1-4

ELW 269

PRAYER

Let us pray: Lord Christ, you came into this world in a surprising way- Surprise us all over again and come into the dark and dirty and hidden places of our lives. Bring your light to set us free from sin and your love to lead us forth into a world that longs for your presence. **Amen.**

SIXTH LESSON: LUKE 2:8-16

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵ 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." ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

"The First Noel" vv. 1-2

ELW 300

PRAYER

Let us pray: Lord Christ – Help us never to neglect this joyous news that drove the shepherds to your side. Enlighten us with your gifts that as we encounter you we might return to our daily lives glorifying and praising God for the good news that we have seen and heard. **Amen.**

SEVENTH LESSON: MATTHEW 2:1-11

² In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi^[a] from the east came to Jerusalem, ² asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east^[b] and have come to pay him homage." ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah^[c] was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶ 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd^[d] my people Israel.' "

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the magi^[e] and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east^[f] until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped,^[g] they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

EIGHTH LESSON: JOHN 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ 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.

PRAYER

Let us pray: O God, that you would become flesh and dwell among us is a remarkable mystery... and yet you reveal yourself hidden in the flesh of a neighbor every day – grant us faith to believe in your presence and to receive you as Lord, so that we might be heirs of this good news. We pray all these things in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. **Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC: “He Came Down” vv. 1-4

ELW 253

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD’S PRAYER

Gathered together by the Holy Spirt, let us now pray the Lord’s Prayer in whatever language is most familiar.

All: Our Father...

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The ushers will direct you when to come forward to receive communion. There are gluten-free wafers available by request. Lighter colored grape juice is available at the center of the tray. After receiving communion, please place your empty glass communion cup in the basket at the end of either first row.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" vv. 1-4

ELW 282

"Your Little Ones, Dear Lord" vv. 1-4

ELW 286

COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter, ✠ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

"Go Tell It on the Mountain" vv. 1-3

ELW 290

DISMISSAL

L: Glory to God in the highest!

All: And peace to God's people on earth!

L: Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week at Atonement & Cross of Glory:

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|-----------|--|
| Today | 9:30 – Worship at Atonement 10am – FCC at Atonement LL Noon – Cristo Rey at Atonement |
| Monday | 8am – Crossroads Bible Study at Atonement Noon – Kitchen Kutups Christmas Party at Atonement 2pm – Puzzles at Atonement 6pm – Girl Scouts at Atonement |
| Tuesday | 6pm – Zumba at Atonement |
| Wednesday | Offices Closed |
| Thursday | Buildings Closed for New Year’s Day |
| Friday | Offices Closed 5pm – New Birth at Cross of Glory |
| Saturday | 9am – New Birth at Cross of Glory 9am – Mount of Blessings at Atonement |
| Sunday | 8:30 – Worship at Cross of Glory 9:30 – Sunday School/Youth at Cross of Glory 9:30 – White Elephant Gift Exchange at Cross of Glory 10am – FCC at Atonement LL 10:45 – Worship at Atonement <u>Noon – Cristo Rey at Atonement</u> |

CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED this Wednesday – Friday, December 31 – January 2. Happy New Year!

ANNUAL MEETINGS – Cross of Glory’s Annual Meeting is Sunday, January 25 and Atonement’s Annual Meeting is Sunday, February 1. We’ll have one 9:30am worship service at the church having their annual meeting followed with fellowship and food.

CROSS OF GLORY SNOW SHOVELING – If anyone can help with shoveling the sidewalks Sunday mornings when we get snow overnight, there is a signup sheet in the narthex. Thank you for your help!

WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE – Next Sunday, January 4 there will be a white elephant gift exchange at 9:30am at Cross of Glory. All are welcome to participate.

FOOD DONATIONS AT ATONEMENT - On December 18, three bags of non-perishable foods were delivered to Ralph Reeder Food Shelf by the Hunger Group (Paul and Bonnie Anderson). We hope our neighborhood families will enjoy a meal that includes these donations. Thank you to everyone who donated!