



# CROWN OF GLORY

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation



ELCA



*We are one family of God,  
inspired by the Holy Spirit to welcome everyone,  
to serve our neighbors, and to share God's love and saving grace.*



## Fifth Sunday of Lent

April 6, 2025

9:00 a.m.

## GATHERING MUSIC

*Take My Life and Let it Be* (arr. J.B. Taylor) (Ginger Larson)

## WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Crown of Glory is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation.
- We will be celebrating Holy Communion in worship today.
- The Kiddos' Corner is located at the North side of the Sanctuary along with Activity Bags. Please utilize these resources as needed throughout our worship service.
- New to Crown of Glory? Welcome! Join us after worship in the Sun Hall for fellowship, coffee, tea, and treats. See a Hospitality volunteer or one of the Pastors with questions.
- Thank you to our Worship Assistant, Sherri Taylor, to our AV Technicians, Bennett Eriksrud and John Rekow, to Ginger Larson and Kate Peterson for their music, and to our Hospitality volunteers for their help with today's service.

## A PRAYER OF INVOCATION

P: God meets us in the night

C: **before the sun rises, before the wound heals, before there are answers, before there is closure.**

P: God meets us in the light

C: **where joy is effervescent, where laughter is contagious, where flowers bloom from cracks in the sidewalk, where people gather around tables.**

P: God meets us in between

C: **at the edge of the water, at the beginning of the wilderness, at the start of something new, on the edge of faith.**

P: And if God meets us in all those places,

C: **then surely God meets us everywhere at the water's edge, at the start of something new, after the baptism, and before the call.**

P: We are not alone. God is all around.

C: **Let us worship the God of everything.**

## CONFESSIONAL SONG

*Just As I Am, without One Plea* (ELW 592)

## CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P: Merciful God,

C: **When we fail to be righteous, show us mercy. When we fail to be merciful, show us what is right. Again and again, bring us closer to you. Again and again, show us the way. Amen.**

## WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

P: Family of faith, hear and believe this good news: When we fail to be righteous,

C: **God is merciful.**

P: When we fail to be merciful,

C: **God invites us to try again.**

P: Again and again,  
C: **God moves closer to us.**

P: Again and again,  
C: **God shows us the way.**

P: Thanks be to God for this unending love.  
C: **Amen.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land* (ELW 333)

## GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
C: **And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Loving God,  
C: **Week after week we return to this space, because we long to see you. Like Zacchaeus who climbed a tree to get a peek as you walked by, we come to this sanctuary hoping to get a peek of your goodness, of your joy, of your light. So speak to us through these ancient words. Let us get a peek of the love that lingers here. Gratefully we pray, Amen.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil* (ELW 512)

## HOLY GOSPEL Luke 19:1-10

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus] entered Jericho and was passing through it. <sup>2</sup>A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. <sup>3</sup>He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. <sup>4</sup>So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. <sup>5</sup>When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." <sup>6</sup>So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. <sup>7</sup>All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." <sup>8</sup>Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." <sup>9</sup>Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup>For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## MESSAGE

"Re-establishing Relationship" (Pastor Laura Laughlin)

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Righteous Mercy* (Anna Strickland)

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

P: Together, let us confess our faith:

C: **In a world that loves to cast blame and point fingers, Jesus loved by different rules. He offered mercy. He invited people to dinner. He told stories of love. He chose to see the best in others.**

**We believe that small acts of mercy and compassion have ripple effects in our lives. We believe that small acts of righteousness and justice are integral to a life of faith.**

**So like Christ, we believe in offering mercy, inviting people to dinner, telling stories of love, and choosing to see the best in others. With God's help, may it be so. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P: God, in your mercy,

C: **receive our prayer.**

## PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

## OFFERING

*Steady My Heart* (Kari Jobe)

(Kate Peterson, Ginger Larson, and Pastor Laura Laughlin)

The offering will be received in offering plates during worship. To give by phone with *Text-to-Give*, text 833-497-3991 with the amount that you would like to contribute. To give online, visit our website and click on the *GIVE+Online* icon. We give thanks and praise for all gifts given toward our on-going mission.

## OFFERTORY

*Praise to You, O Christ, Our Savior* (WOV 614)

## OFFERING PRAYER

P: Gracious Provider,

C: **you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## COMMUNION GREETING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## LORD'S PRAYER

P: God, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: **Our Creator in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## INVITATION

All are welcome at the Lord's Table! The congregation will be invited by rows to come forward and receive a portion of bread and a cup with either wine or grape-juice (please indicate your preference to your server). All bread is allergen-free. Children who are not yet communing are welcome to come forward for a blessing! If you need to be served at your seat, please let an usher know.

## DISTRIBUTION

*Come to the Table* (Sidewalk Prophets)  
(Kate Peterson and Ginger Larson)

## COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
Amen.

P: Generous Host,

C: **you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* (ELW 587, vs. 1, 2, 4)

## BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

P: As you leave this place, may you find God in every messy middle. May you know that the world is bigger than two sides. May you trust that you are made in the image of God, and therefore, you contain multitudes. So may you move through this world with an open heart, with a curious mind, and with the confidence that you do not go alone. God is with you in the mountains, in the valleys, and everywhere in between. Believe that good news, and go in peace.

C: **Thanks be to God. We will!**

## SENDING MUSIC

*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* (reprise) (Ginger Larson)

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Prayers by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org).

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# everything [in] between

righteousness & mercy

Throughout the remaining few weeks of Lent, we will hear and learn from stories about Jesus as he journeys to the cross as described in the Gospel of Luke. Each week, we will study a piece of art that depicts that week's story and take a close look at two apparent opposites to discover where God might be in between them.

This weekend, we hear the story of Jesus and Zacchaeus, the tax collector, whose reputation for extortion and collusion made him very unpopular in his community. Jesus teaches us what it looks like to offer mercy, even to those whom we do not feel deserve it.

Be sure to take a devotional booklet (located in the display in the Gathering Space) home with you to continue diving deep into this weekend's topic as we learn and journey together this Lenten season.

## Righteous Mercy

HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7 D ("Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus")

Words by Anna Strickland, 2023

Music by Rowland H. Prichard, 1830;  
harm. Ralph Vaughn Williams, 1906



Since our child - hood you have taught us what is wrong  
Though there's wide - ness in your mer - cy, let us not  
Far too of - ten we hold on - to an - ger dressed



and what is right Nur - tur - ing our sense of  
a - buse that grace Called in - to this Chris - tian  
as righ - teous - ness We for - get we serve a

*(Righteous Mercy continued on next page)*

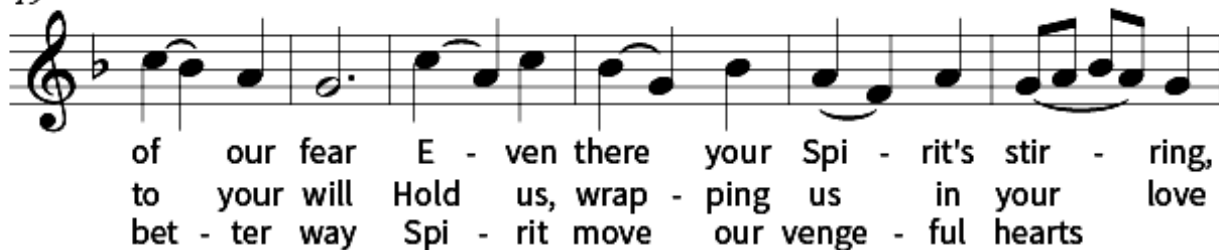
*Righteous Mercy (continued)*



14



19



25



## 614 - Praise to You, O Christ, Our Savior

1. Praise to you, O Christ, our sav - ior, Word of the Fa - ther, call - ing us to life:

5  
Son of God who leads us to free - dom: glo - ry to you, Lord Je - sus Christ!

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system is for the first line of the hymn, and the second system is for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system begins with a measure rest marked with a '5'.

## Holy Week Worship Schedule:

Palm Sunday

April 13  
9:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday

April 17  
6:30 p.m.  
First Communion

Good Friday

Cantata  
April 18  
6:30 p.m.

Holy Saturday Taize

April 19  
5:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday

April 20  
8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.  
Easter Egg Hunt at 9:45 a.m.



## Announcements

**Speaker on Immigration:** Today at 10:15 a.m. in the North Sun Hall

In 2016, the ELCA Churchwide Assembly approved "Accompany Migrants with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities" (AMMPARO), our denomination's strategy to inform our holistic, whole-church response to migration and those forced to flee their communities. The message calls for the church to be a welcoming place that is grounded in the call to welcome the stranger (Matthew 25:35), together with the commitment to justice that advocates for fair and generous laws.

In the spirit of this denominational strategy, the Justice & Inclusion Team is hosting a speaker on immigration issues on Sunday, April 6 at 10:15 a.m. in the Sun Hall. Grecia Lozano, Executive Director of Latino Voices, will be sharing the services that her organization provides and will address how our congregation can support our migrant neighbors. We will also have a box in the narthex to collect items for the clients of Latino Voices. Items that are needed include: deodorant, diapers in size 4, 5 and 6, sunscreen, body lotion, and feminine hygiene products.

You can send financial donations to [www.latinovoicesmn.org](http://www.latinovoicesmn.org) or look for the flyer in the church narthex with a QR code for PayPal donations. Thank you for your support of this vital community organization!

### **Join Us for a Special Celebration!**

We are excited to invite you to join the Justice & Inclusion Team on **Sunday, April 13, at 10:15 a.m.** as we celebrate becoming a **RIC (Reconciling in Christ) congregation!** To mark this milestone, we will be hanging a special banner in the Sun Hall.

As an RIC church, we are committed to being a welcoming and inclusive community for all, including our LGBTQ+ neighbors and friends.

Come celebrate with us and enjoy some special treats!

### **Fundraising at Target Field**

Volunteers from Crown of Glory will be doing concessions for 10 games at Target Field during the upcoming Minnesota Twins season. We are looking for additional volunteers to join us in this new fundraising venture that will help support Crown of Glory. For more information contact

[Pastor Reggie](#), [Mikel Jones](#), [Deb Peterson](#) or [Kate Peterson](#).

### **Rummage Sale**

As you may start to do Spring Cleaning, keep in mind we will be seeking donations for the Rummage Sale later this Spring. More information to come.

### **Cross Wall**

Each year we invite members to bring a cross to be included on the Cross Wall just outside the sanctuary. The Cross Wall was started during Lent in 2018 and remains a tradition today. If you have a cross that you would like to be included on the Cross Wall, please drop it off at the church office.

### **Sign Up on the Worship Whiteboard**

Located to the left of the Hospitality Station outside the main Sanctuary entrance, this board is available to kids of all ages to volunteer to help in worship with things like passing the Offering plates, serving Communion to the Pastors, lighting candles, etc. All kids are encouraged to arrive by 4:55 p.m. on Saturday or 8:55 a.m. on Sunday to get signed up.

## Announcements

### **Children's Bulletins**

We have special Children's Bulletins to accompany our lessons during Lent; look for them at the Hospitality table. Crayons can be found in the Activity Bags located in the Kiddos' Corner on the North side of the Sanctuary.

**Wednesday Night Worship During Lent:** Through April 9 at 6:30 p.m. (In Person & Livestream)

### **Lent Cinnamon Rolls are Back**

Every Sunday through the Lent season, our senior high youth will be serving fresh Cinnamon rolls and OJ following Sunday morning worship service. Cinnamon rolls are a suggested \$2 donation. All proceeds will support the Senior High Mission Trip.

### **Wednesday Night Dinners:**

Do you want a night off from making dinner? Join us for a wonderful meal and fellowship on Wednesday nights. Dinner is served almost every Wednesday from 5:15-6:15 p.m. The cost is \$6 per youth or \$16 per family. Meals are prepared by the Wednesday Night Dinner Team and served by Confirmation small groups.

#### Upcoming Menu:

#### ***Soup Suppers During Lent***

April 9 - Garlic Mushroom Soup

April 16 - No Dinner Holy Week

April 23 - No Dinner – Special Event

#### Confirmation Kitchen Helpers:

Connect (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>)

No Dinner Holy Week

No Dinner - Special Event

All meals are served with a salad bar, yogurt and granola bar, and fruit.

### **Soup Suppers Served During Lent**

Thank you to all who signed up to bring soup. Please bring enough soup to feed at least 20-30 people. Soups should be dropped off on Wednesdays by 4:00 p.m. in the church kitchen. Thank you!

**No SPARK Sunday School:** Today and April 20

### **Men's Pub Ministry:** April 10

Join this group at Fat Pants Brewing Company, Eden Prairie, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. for good brew and fellowship.

### **Women's Bible Study:** April 12 from 9:00-10:15 a.m.

Led by CoG member, Sherri Taylor ([sherriktaylor@hotmail.com](mailto:sherriktaylor@hotmail.com)), this group of curious and delightful women meet once a month on Saturdays throughout the program year to study a book of the Bible together. This year, they will be journeying through the Gospel of Luke.

### **Sunday Conversations:** April 13 from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Dive into thought-provoking discussion in our adult study group, where we explore a range of biblical themes, social justice issues, and relevant topics. This year, we'll focus on the book *Dialogues: On Race*. Topic of conversation this month: *Two Christianities*

### **Crown of Glory's Monthly Pledge to the Bountiful Basket Food Shelf**

During April we will be collecting donations of spaghetti sauce, pasta, and instant rice. These items should be placed in the bin located in the Gathering Space. Thank you for your generosity!

## Announcements

# VBS Registration is Open!

Register online on Crown of Glory's website, [crownofglory.org](https://crownofglory.org), hover over the word Ministry, and click on VBS Registration.

Contact Gretchen Mitcham, [gretchen@crownofglory.org](mailto:gretchen@crownofglory.org), with any questions.

**JULY 28-31**

**Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.**

**Cost:**

**Early Bird Rate**  
(until June 1, 2025)

**\$55/camper**  
(includes lunch & snacks)



### Camp Wapo Summer Camp Opportunities

Does the sunshine have you dreaming about summer camp?

In the past few years, kids from Crown of Glory have enjoyed attending Camp Wapogasset, aka Wapo, located in Amery, WI. You can learn more about the camp and the options on this website: <https://lakewapo.org/sites/camp-wapo/>. They offer a weekend camp called "Wapo Seeds" for kids currently in grades 1-3. There is a Sunday - Friday option for kids currently in grades 4-9. The Wapo staff is encouraging us to consider the weeks for July 20-25 or August 3-8 if Crown of Glory kids are wanting to attend as a group. Please reach out to [Gretchen](#) if you have any questions!



**Holden Evening Prayer Service:**

**Wednesdays**

**6:30 p.m.**

(In Person & Livestream)

**The Story of Job: Faithful One of God**

**March 19: Job's Suffering**

**March 26: God Responds to Job**

**April 2: God's Voice**

**April 9: Job's Final Words**



## SABBATICAL ANNOUNCEMENT

### **Pastor Laura is going on Sabbatical!**

Beginning April 24, 2025, I will be taking a three-month sabbatical for rest, renewal, study, and writing. I am grateful for this congregation's support and invite your prayers during this time!

Amid some time off and respite at home and enjoying time with my family, I will be focusing portions of my sabbatical on the intersection between music and creation rooted in several experiences: hiking a section of the Dingle Way in Ireland, singing with the Crown of Glory choral ensemble at Carnegie Hall in the urban jungle of New York City, visiting Zion National Park and the Grand Canyon while learning about the Native American communities in Arizona, and participating in the music and work of the church as a voting member at the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix, Arizona.

I give thanks for the support of my colleague, Pastor Reggie, and for the Crown of Glory Staff as they cover and share my responsibilities during the time that I am gone. Just as I invite your prayers for my sabbatical time, I will also be holding you, Crown of Glory, in my prayers throughout the three months that we are apart.

I look forward to returning to worship on August 10, 2025 renewed, refreshed, and ready for another program year of ministry together!

In Christ,  
Pastor Laura

### **Financial Update: New Location!**

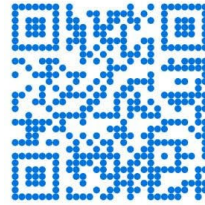
#### **Financial Reports**

Copies of Financial Reports can be found on the display board next to the main Church Office or by contacting our Finance Manager, Ashley Pederson.

## Ways to Give at Crown of Glory



To give via Venmo, scan the QR code. Include the amount you would like to contribute and the fund you are giving to.



### **Directing Thrivent Choice Dollars:**

**Online:** [thrivent.com/thriventchoice](https://thrivent.com/thriventchoice)

**Phone:** 1-800-847-4836

**Contact:** Pastor Reggie (952)-448-3230 ext. 3

[pastorreggie@crownofglory.org](mailto:pastorreggie@crownofglory.org)

**Scan the Code:**



### **Charitable Giving Information**

Investment groups have great information on tax savings that help you give more to charitable causes and could save you money overall. Win/win! Check out this link for ideas (disclaimer, we do not give tax advice, simply serving up ideas for your review with your tax advisor).

<https://www.fidelitycharitable.org/guidance/charitable-tax-strategies.html>

## Church Council



Mikel Jones (President), Eric Larson (Vice President), Sherri Eriksrud (Secretary), Bob Chinnock, Deb Mangen, Kate Peterson, Kristi Kirsch, Chad LaGow, Bill Tyler, Pastor Laura Laughlin, and Pastor Reggie Klindworth

### Staff

<b>Senior Pastor</b>	Reggie Klindworth	<a href="mailto:pastorreggie@crownofglory.org">pastorreggie@crownofglory.org</a> 952-448-3230 ext. 3
<b>Pastor of Worship and Music</b>	Laura Laughlin	<a href="mailto:pastorlaura@crownofglory.org">pastorlaura@crownofglory.org</a> 952-448-3230 ext. 4
<b>Finance Manager</b>	Ashley Pederson	<a href="mailto:ashley@crownofglory.org">ashley@crownofglory.org</a> 952-448-3230 ext. 5
<b>Interim Director of SPARK Ministry</b>	Gretchen Mitcham	<a href="mailto:gretchen@crownofglory.org">gretchen@crownofglory.org</a> 952-448-3230 ext. 7
<b>Administrative Office Assistant</b>	Sara Keim	<a href="mailto:sara@crownofglory.org">sara@crownofglory.org</a> 952-448-3230 ext. 8
<b>Piano Accompanist</b> Ginger Larson	<b>Organist</b> Tabitha Hanson	<b>Chancel Chimers Director</b> Sarah Morrow
<b>Servant Song Leader</b> Grace Becker		

**Office Hours:** Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
**Worship Schedule** (Program Year): Saturday 5:00 p.m. & Sunday 9:00 a.m.  
**Summer Worship Schedule:** Sunday 9:00 a.m.



