



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.*



Third Sunday of Lent

March 23, 2025

9:00 a.m.

GATHERING MUSIC

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above (Thomas Chesterton)
(Tabitha Hanson)

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Crown of Glory is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation.
- We will be celebrating Holy Communion in worship today.
- We are celebrating the baptism of Josie Marie Oddo, daughter of Kaitlyn and Samuel Oddo, with her sponsors, Jacob Graikowski and Elle Mortensen.
- 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, Sarah Morrow, to our AV Technicians, Brian Johnson and Matt Scherer, to Tabitha Hanson and the Chancel Chimers 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.**

CONFESSIOAL SONG

As Rain from the Clouds (ELW 508)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P: Holy God, there are days when we fail to rest.

C: **We stretch ourselves too thin. We say "yes" to every invitation. We run a million miles a minute. We ignore your command to rest.**

P: There are also days when we fail to act.

C: **We wait for someone else. We take the easy road. We find excuses and justify our inaction.**

P: God, forgive our imbalance.

C: **Remind us that birds rest, and they also fly. Show us how to do the same. Amen.**

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

- P: Family of faith, I have good news! Our God does not keep score. Our God does not hold grudges. Our God does not assume the worst about us. No, our God offers grace, and endless second chances, and boundless love. So join me in proclaiming the good news of the gospel:
- C: **God's grace is deeper than the ocean. God's love is wider than the sky. We are seen. We are claimed. We are forgiven. May this realization change and inspire us. Thanks be to God! 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: Creator God,
- C: **your Word is like soil, something we can root ourselves in. Your Word is like the sun, big enough to touch everything with its warmth. And your Word is like a gardener, a love that prunes and encourages, waters and delights, seeds and tends. So as we turn to your text today, warm our bones, tend to our broken pieces, and show us how to grow. With hope we pray, Amen.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 13:6-9

- P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

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

⁶Then [Jesus] told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' ⁸He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

- P: The Gospel of our Lord.
- C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

Hippo Song (SPARK Kids)

MESSAGE

"The Eyes of the Steward" (Pastor Reggie Klindworth)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Beneath the Soil (Anna Strickland)

HOLY BAPTISM

Josie Marie Oddo

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

Be Thou My Vision (arr. Sandra Eithun)
(Chancel Chimers)

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

Words (Dennis Wallisch)

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

A Celtic Ring incorporating *Holy Manna* (arr. Susan E. Geschke)
(Chancel Chimers)

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

For the Fruit of All Creation (ELW 679)

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

Praise, O Christ, To Thee (Stanley P Trusselle) (Tabitha Hanson)

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Prayers by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.



Welcome to the season of Lent! Throughout the next several weeks, 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 the gardener and the fig tree, causing us to reflect on the necessity of both rest and growth. Jesus also teaches us where transformation takes place: in-between the moments of nurture and the bearing of fruit.

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.

Beneath the Soil

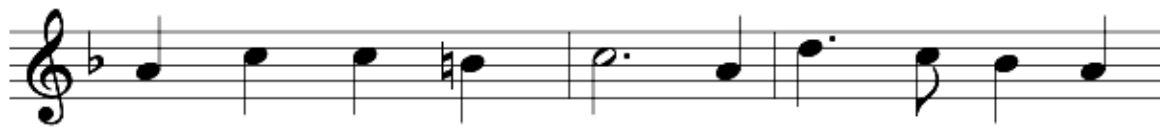
WINCHESTER OLD 8.6.8.6

Words by Anna Strickland, 2024

Music by George Kirbye, 1592



Be - neath the so - il in the dark there's
Re - mem - ber when the world de - mands more
The rest and nur - ture we re - ceive will
In ev - ery sea - son of our lives the



growth too slow to see A trans - for - ma - tion
than you can pro - duce We each grow at a
turn to fruit in time For God made us to
Spi - rit is at work To nur - ture us to



not dis - played in bran - ches, fruit, and leaves
diff - erent pace and growth starts at the roots
grow and change as toward the sky we climb
bear good fruit while root - ed in the earth

Announcements

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. Members of the Target Field Fundraising team will be available in the Sun Hall after worship today to answer questions.

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.

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.

Easter Flowers Sale: Now through April 3

Order forms for Easter Flowers are available in the Gathering Space, at the Church Office, or fill the form out online, <https://forms.gle/vmKcM8YkFeSpydCx6>, if using Venmo as payment.

Flower Choices:

- Easter Lily- \$12
 - Yellow or Purple Mum- \$13
 - Pink or Orange Tulip- \$11
 - Blue Hydrangea- \$25
- Payment can be made by cash, check (made payable to Crown of Glory), or Venmo (Crown of Glory: Easter Flowers). Orders are due by Thursday, April 3 by 12:00 p.m. Flowers may be picked up after Easter worship services. If you would like to donate your flowers, please indicate your request by checking the box on the order form. Thank you!

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

Music Rehearsals During Lent

Wednesdays: Servant Song: 5:00 p.m., Chancel Chimers: 5:45 p.m., and Chancel Choir: 7:15 p.m.
Thursdays: Garage Band: 7:30 p.m.

Announcements

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

March 26 - French Onion Soup

April 2 - Chicken Pot Pie Soup

April 9 - Garlic Mushroom Soup

April 16 - No Dinner Holy Week

Confirmation Kitchen Helpers:

7th Grade Boys

7th Grade Girls

Connect (4th & 5th)

No Dinner Holy Week

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

Soup Suppers Served During Lent

We are seeking one more volunteer to bring soup April 2 and three volunteers to bring soup April 9. A signup sheet is located in the Gathering Space or email Pastor Reggie your choice of soup and the Wednesday you are able to donate. 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!

Fare for All: March 27 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in the CoG Sanctuary

Fare for All is a pop-up grocery store and a great way to save money on quality, nutritious food. Fare For All buys fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, and frozen meat in bulk to save you up to 40% off grocery store prices. Fare For All is community supported and open to everyone. Fare For All accepts cash, credit, debit, and EBT cards.

Mega Meat Pack- \$25 Produce Pack- \$10

March's Hot Buys: Italian Sausage Lasagna - 2lbs - \$7, Chicken Thighs 1.25lbs - \$4, Chicken Thighs Case (6) 7.5lbs - \$21, Beef Patties (6) 21oz - \$5, Bacon Breakfast Sandwich 16oz - \$4, Ribeye Steak 4-6oz - \$5

No SPARK Sunday School: March 30 and April 6 for Spring Break

Lutheran Women Gone Wild: April 3

Join this group of women for good food and fellowship at Cuzzy's Brick House, Chaska, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Contact Sandi Rue, rue@rues.org, with any questions and to RSVP.

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

Led by CoG member, Sherri Taylor (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.

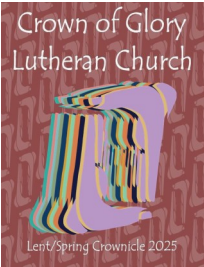
Announcements

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 March we will be collecting donations of hearty soups and crackers. These items should be placed in the bin located in the Gathering Space. Thank you for your generosity!



Spring Crownicle Now Available

Read about all of the things coming up at Crown of Glory. There are a few printed copies available for reading at the church and it is also available to view online on the Crown of Glory website, in the special CC sent March 3, or the weekly CC.

VBS Registration is Open!

Register online on Crown of Glory's website, crownofglory.org, hover over the word Ministry, and click on VBS Registration.

JULY 28-31
Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Contact Gretchen Mitcham, gretchen@crownofglory.org, with any questions.

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!

Announcements

Speaker on Immigration: April 6 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 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!

Announcements

Join us through the season of Lent



everything [in] between

Meeting God in the midst of extremes



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

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.





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!

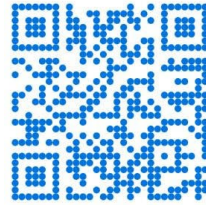
Financial Reports

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

Phone: 1-800-847-4836

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

pastorreggie@crownofglory.org

Scan the Code:



**Direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars by
March 31, 2025.**



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



Back row, from left to right:

Pastor Laura Laughlin, Sherri Eriksrud, Kristi Kirsch, Mikel Jones (Secretary), Eric Larson,
Pastor Reggie Klindworth, Bob Chinnock

Front row, from left to right:

Deb Mangen, Sarah Morrow (Vice President), Kate Peterson (President), Deb Peterson

Staff

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

Join us through the season of Lent



stranger & neighbor

March 8 & 9
5:00 p.m. & 9:00 a.m.



power & humility

April 5 & 6
5:00 p.m. & 9:00 a.m.



righteousness & mercy

Maundy Thursday
April 17
6:30 p.m.



faith & works

March 15 & 16
5:00 p.m. & 9:00 a.m.

everything
[in] between



acceptance & reistance

Good Friday Cantata
April 18
6:30 p.m.



rest & growth

March 22 & 23
5:00 p.m. & 9:00 a.m.

Holy Week
April 13-19



Holy Saturday Taize

April 19
5:00 p.m.



lost & found

March 29 & 30
5:00 p.m. & 9:00 a.m.



shouting & silence

April 12 & 13
5:00 p.m. & 9:00 a.m.



grief & hope

Easter Sunday
April 20
8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.