



*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.*



“Grow in Hope”

Second Sunday of Advent  
December 7, 2025  
9:00 a.m.

## GATHERING MUSIC

*In the Bleak Midwinter* (arr. Roberta Rowland-Raybold)  
(Tabitha Hanson)

## WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Crown of Glory is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation.
- We will be celebrating Holy Communion in worship today.
- Members, guests, and visitors are invited to fill out a yellow Welcome Card located in a Hymnal, at the North entrance, Hospitality Station, and Church Office table. If you need a pencil/pen, they can be found at the North entrance of the building, Hospitality Station, and church office. Filled out Welcome Cards can be placed in the offering plate during offering, put in the designated box at the church office desk, or handed to an usher as you leave 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.
- Thank you to our Worship Assistant, Amy Alberg, to our AV Technicians, John Rekow and Scott Saulsbury, to Tabitha Hanson and the Chancel Chimers for their music, and to our Hospitality volunteers for their help with today's service.

## CONFSSIONAL SONG

*O Day of Peace* (ELW 711)

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another, taking a moment for our own personal reflections.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Long-expected God,

C: **we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient with waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.**

P: God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. ☩ You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.

C: **Amen.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*All Earth is Hopeful* (ELW 266, vs. 1, 2, 4)

## 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: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son.

C: **By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 11:1-10

<sup>1</sup> A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> 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, <sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. <sup>5</sup> Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. <sup>6</sup> The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. <sup>7</sup> The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup> The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. <sup>9</sup> They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. <sup>10</sup> On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

P: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*Wait for the Lord* (ELW 262)

## HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 3:1-12

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

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

<sup>1</sup> In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup> "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." <sup>3</sup> This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.' "

<sup>4</sup> Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup> Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, <sup>6</sup> and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>7</sup> But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup> Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, <sup>9</sup> and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>10</sup> Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>11</sup> "I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

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

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## MESSAGE

"Hope is on its Way!" (Pastor Reggie Klindworth)

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Comfort, Comfort Now My People* (ELW 256)

## STATEMENT OF FAITH (Apostles' Creed)

P: With the whole church on earth, let us confess our faith:

C: **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.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P: God of grace,

C: **hear our prayer.**

## PEACE

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

C: **And also with you.**

## OFFERING

*For the Beauty of the Earth* (arr. Carol Lynn Mizell)  
(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

*We Are Waiting for Jesus* (ACS 905, vs. 1)

## OFFERING PRAYER

P: Nourishing God,

C: **you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, nourish our hearts, that we may rejoice and be signs of your kingdom come in a world longing for hope. 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

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (arr. Barbara B. Kinyon)  
(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: God our host,

C: **at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and love our neighbor in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

## BLESSING

P: May God who comes among us, Creator, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always. Amen.

## SENDING HYMN

*Blessed Be the God of Israel* (ELW 250)

## DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Keep awake.

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

## SENDING MUSIC

*People, Look East* (arr. Kam Kraybill) (Tabitha Hanson)

# We Are Waiting for Jesus



1 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
2 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



Sun of jus - tice, shine up - on us; we are trust - ing in your prom - ise.  
Lov - ing Shep - herd, walk be - side us; stir our hearts, and gent - ly guide us.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

Text: John Helgen, b. 1957

Music: JESUS BRINGS PEACE, John Helgen

Text and music © 2013 Augsburg Fortress

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## Announcements

### **Baptism**

Along with family and friends we celebrate the baptism of James Steven Cramer, son of Sara Kershner-Cramer and Matthew Cramer, with his sponsors, Jessica and Chris Zator. This sacrament took place before worship today.

### **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 8:55 a.m. on Sunday to get signed up.

### **Gingerbread Houses**

The adopted gingerbread houses are now on display! Take a look at all of the creativity, inspiration, and wonder.

## Wednesday Night Programming

### **Wednesday Night Dinner Team: Seeking New Members**

Our Wednesday Night Dinner is small and mighty. They work hard to plan the meals, purchase food, prepare meals each week and oversee each Wednesday night serving time. We are seeking new members to join this team of amazing leaders. If you would like to volunteer to serve on this team, we welcome your participation! Contact [pastorreggie@crownofglory.org](mailto:pastorreggie@crownofglory.org) for more details and information.

### **Wednesday Night Dinner**

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 (cash or Venmo). Crown of Glory Venmo code is available at the dinner line for payment option. Meals are prepared by the Wednesday Night Dinner Team and served by Confirmation small groups. All dinners include a salad and yogurt bar.

#### **Menu:**

December 10: Pizza  
December 17: Hearty Appetizers  
December 24 & 31: No Dinner

#### **Kitchen Helpers:**

All 6<sup>th</sup> grade  
All 8<sup>th</sup> grade  
Winter Break

### **Music Ministry Rehearsals:**

Servant Song: Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m.

Chancel Chimers: Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

Chancel Choir: Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m.

Garage Band: TBD

### **Connect and Confirmation: December 17 Christmas Caroling**

Registration is open: Connect– 6:00-7:00 p.m. [crownofglory.org/children](http://crownofglory.org/children)

Confirmation– 6:30-8:00 p.m. [crownofglory.org/middle-school-youth](http://crownofglory.org/middle-school-youth)

## Children and Youth

### **SPARK:**

Registration is open for SPARK- [crownofglory.org/sunday-school-registration](https://crownofglory.org/sunday-school-registration)  
Volunteer for SPARK Leader or Helper and Kiddos' Corner- [crownofglory.org/children](https://crownofglory.org/children)

**Senior High Youth Group Event:** Today from 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Join us for building and decorating real gingerbread houses.

## Adult Ministry and Education

**Sunday Conversations:** Today from 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the Sun Hall

**Men's Pub Ministry:** December 18

Join this group at Unmapped Brewing Co., Minnetonka, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. for good brew and fellowship.

**Book Discussion:** January 15

You are invited to join the Justice & Inclusion Team for a discussion of the book *Being Ellen: A Second Chance at Life* by Ellen Krug. The author will join us for this event which will be held on Thursday, January 15, 2026, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Sun Hall. Copies of the book can be purchased from the author at [elliekrug@gmail.com](mailto:elliekrug@gmail.com), your local bookseller or Amazon. There are also a few copies available at the Hennepin County Libraries. If you have questions please contact Becky Varone at [rebecca.varone@gmail.com](mailto:rebecca.varone@gmail.com).

## Events at Crown of Glory

**Troop 174 Scouts to Host: "Breakfast with Santa!"**

Kick off the holiday season with a pancake breakfast and a chance for photos with Santa Claus!

**When:** Saturday, December 13 | 8:00–11:00 a.m.

**Where:** Sun Hall at Crown of Glory Lutheran Church

**Cost:** \$10 for ages 12+, \$6 for ages 4-11 and 3 and under are free. Gluten-free options available.

All proceeds benefit Troop 174 Scouts as they prepare for their 2026 high adventures at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico and the National Jamboree in Washington D.C. and the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia. Enjoy a bake sale, face painting, and a morning of holiday cheer.

## Donations, Fundraisers, and Volunteering



**The Toy Drive boxes are overflowing with gift donations!**

Thank you to everyone who has been able to donate and to the Connect and Confirmation families for a successful Christmas Gift Night Shopping on December 3.



**Chaska Santa 2025 Toy Drive:**

Now through December 17

Scan codes to register, donate via Venmo, or get access to Santa's Amazon Wish List. Donation box is located in the Gathering Space.



## Donations, Fundraisers, and Volunteering



### **2025 CoG Giving Tree: Take a look! The Giving Tree has had ornaments added.**

The 2025 Giving Tree has Christmas ornaments labeled with donation items to help welcome eighteen new families into Prairie Pointe. We will receive these donations until December 17. Please place these purchased items in the donation box in the Sun Hall or under the tree. The tree will also include donation envelopes benefiting The Faithful Knotters, The Kitchen Essentials Ministry, and Bountiful Basket Food Shelf. Any gifts given in those envelopes will be split three ways for these ministries. We will receive these gifts through December 28. You may place the gift envelopes for the ministries in the drop box in the Church Office. Crown of Glory Ministries and the families at Prairie Pointe thank you so much for your kindness and generosity. If you have any questions, please contact any member of the ministry teams. Tracy Cunningham- Kitchen Essentials Ministry- [tcunningham3040@gmail.com](mailto:tcunningham3040@gmail.com), Corky Jochum- Faithful Knotters- [cejochum@gmail.com](mailto:cejochum@gmail.com), Becky Varone- Justice & Inclusion Team- [rebecca.varone@gmail.com](mailto:rebecca.varone@gmail.com), Sara Keim- Bountiful Basket- [sara@crownofglory.org](mailto:sara@crownofglory.org). Thank you from the Crown of Glory Justice & Inclusion Team

### **Lefse and Bake Sale**

On Sunday, December 21, 2025, Crown of Glory will host our Lefse and Bake Sale! You can pre-order your lefse by contacting the church office or by signing up following worship service. Pay ahead of time, the cost is only \$24/dozen. Fresh lefse will also be for sale by the slice for \$2 following the Christmas Cantata Sunday service. Lefse bake Sale proceeds will support our senior high youth ministry!

### **Lefse Baker Volunteers**

We are seeking volunteers to help make lefse; there is no experience needed!

The lefse baking will take place on Saturday, December 20 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Join this festive baking experience by signing up at the Lefse Table in the gathering area, contacting the church office, or by emailing Pastor Reggie.

### **Bake Sale Item Donations**

Bake something for the Bake Sale! We are seeking baked goods for the December Bake Sale! All baked goods will be sold to help raise funds for Crown of Glory's senior high youth mission trip. To donate an item for this sale, please sign-up at the Lefse Table or contact the church office; please indicate what baked good you are donating. All baked goods need to be delivered to the church kitchen by Saturday, December 20 by 12:00 p.m. \*Please refrain from using nuts.



### **Christmas Tree Pickup**

Let Scouts from Crown of Glory's BSA troop 174 help you dispose of your Christmas tree in an environmentally friendly manner. No need to bag! Just throw your tree on the curb, and scouts will pick it up on Saturday, January 3. A \$10 donation is requested, which supports camps and other important scouting programs. Visit <https://bit.ly/troop174trees> or follow the QR code to sign up by **Sunday, December 21**. Thank you for supporting our Scouts!



SCAN ME

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

During December we will be collecting donations of toilet paper, laundry detergent, dish soap, and shampoo. These items should be placed in the bin located in the Gathering Space. Thank you for your generosity!

## **Financial Update:**

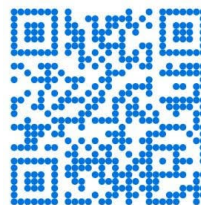
### **Financial Reports**

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:**



**FIDELITY Charitable®**

### **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



*Pictured from left to right:*

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

## 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>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** (All Year): Sunday 9:00 a.m.  
**SPARK Sunday School** (Program Year): Sunday 9:55-10:35 a.m.

The background of the entire image is a deep blue and black night sky filled with numerous white stars of varying sizes. A prominent, bright, hazy band of light, resembling a galaxy or nebula, stretches horizontally across the middle of the image. The stars are more densely packed in some areas, particularly around the central light band and towards the right side.

# Christmas Eve Worship Schedule:

2:00 p.m. (In Person)

3:30 p.m. (In Person & Livestream)

5:00 p.m. (In Person)