



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.*



“Blossom with Joy”

Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025

9:00 a.m.

GATHERING MUSIC

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (arr. Alex Thio)
(Ginger Larson)

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 all of the volunteers and staff who helped with this year's Children's Christmas Narrative. Join us to celebrate after worship today in the Sun Hall!
- Thank you to our Worship Assistant, Grant Taylor, to our AV Technicians, Matt Scherer and Robin Bielefeldt, to the children of the Christmas Narrative, Ginger Larson, Lexi and Karlie Morrow for their music, and to our Hospitality volunteers for their help with today's service.

CONFESSIONAL SONG

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn (ELW 242, vs. 1, 3, 4)

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 the wills of all who look to you, Lord God,

C: **and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; 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 35:1-10

¹ The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ² it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and shouting. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

³ Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴ Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." ⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened; ⁶ then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert; ⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp; the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸ A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. ⁹ No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰ And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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 11:2-11

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

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

² When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" ⁴ Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶ And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." ⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹ What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' ¹¹ 'Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'"

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

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

CHILDREN'S NARRATIVE

HYMNS

O Come, All Ye Faithful (ELW 283, vs. 1 & 4)

Away in a Manger (ELW 277, vs. 1 & 2)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (ELW 270, vs. 1 & 3)

We Three Kings (WOV 646, vs. 1)

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

I Want Jesus to Walk With Me (arr. Raluca Bajor)
(Ginger Larson)

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

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 *Away in a Manger* (Jonathan E. Spilman/William J. Kirkpatrick, arr. Bob Mathews)
Carol of the Bells (Mykola Leontovych, arr. Dandenong Ranges Strings)
 (Lexi Morrow and Ginger Larson, violin; Karlie Morrow, bass)

COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's 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

People, Look East (ELW 248, vs. 1, 3, 4)

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Keep awake.

C: Thanks be to God. We will!

SENDING MUSIC

People Look East (arr. Christopher Alexander)
(Ginger Larson)

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

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

Announcements

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.

Winter Crownicle Available

The Winter Crownicle features an article from Council Secretary, Sherri Eriksrud, on page 4. There are a few printed copies available for reading at the church and it is available to view online on the Crown of Glory website.

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 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 17: Hearty Appetizers
December 24 & 31: No Dinner

Kitchen Helpers:

All 8th 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

Confirmation– 6:30-8:00 p.m. crownofglory.org/middle-school-youth

Children and Youth

SPARK:

Registration is open for SPARK- crownofglory.org/sunday-school-registration

Volunteer for SPARK Leader or Helper and Kiddos' Corner– crownofglory.org/children

Adult Ministry and Education

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, 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.

Donations, Fundraisers, and Volunteering



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.

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.

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!

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- tacunningham3040@gmail.com, Corky Jochum- Faithful Knotters- cejochum@gmail.com, Becky Varone- Justice & Inclusion Team- rebecca.varone@gmail.com, Sara Keim- Bountiful Basket- sara@crownofglory.org. Thank you from the Crown of Glory Justice & Inclusion Team



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

Financial Update:

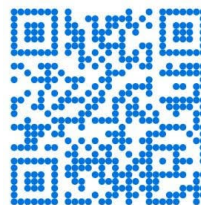
Financial Reports

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

Phone: 1-800-847-4836

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

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

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
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 (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 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)