

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.



First Sunday of Lent

March 9, 2025 9:00 a.m.

Open the Eyes of My Heart (Paul Baloche) (Garage Band)

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 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, Grant Taylor, to our AV Technicians, Bennett Eriksrud and Matt Scherer, to Ginger Larson and the Garage Band 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

Thy Word (W&P 144)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- P: Holy God,
- C: you have told us to love our neighbors as ourselves, but we get tripped up on logistics. We want to know: who is our neighbor? Do we have to love the stranger? Must we have compassion for our enemy? Forgive our human tendency to create exceptions in the face of love. Rewire our hearts so that we might see the face of a neighbor in every stranger we pass. With hope we pray, Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

- P: Family of faith, When we set limits on love,
- **C:** God loves extravagantly.
- P: When we forget that we are neighbors,
- C: God claims us as God's own.

- P: When we judge, hold back, or harm,
- C: God surrounds us with grace.
- P: There is nothing we can do or leave undone that could separate us from the love of God.
- C: This is the good news of the gospel. 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: Gracious God, we love to ask you questions. We love to throw our wonderings at the sky, to bring our curiosity to your feet, to examine, beseech, and imagine all day long. But when the answers come, we don't always like what we hear.
- C: Awaken a curiosity in us. Awaken a penchant for listening, and make room in our spirits for your Word to take root. With hope we question, we wonder, we dream, we listen. Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 10:25-37

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

²⁶He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?"

²⁷He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."

²⁸And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

²⁹But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

³⁰Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³²So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. ³⁴He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' ³⁶Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" ³⁷He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE

"Go and Do Likewise" (Pastor Reggie Klindworth)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

P: Church, if God asked you, "Who is your neighbor?" what would you say?

C: We would say, every child, every person, every weeping willow, and every morning lark. Every freckled face, every wrinkled pair of hands, every tail-wagging dog, and every crisp ripe apple. We would say, we are connected to one another, to all of God's creation. There are no strangers in God's house. We are all family here.

P: I think God would delight in that answer. For it is said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,

C: with all your soul,

P: with all your strength,

C: with all your mind,

P: and you shall love your neighbor as yourself."

C: We believe. Help our unbelief. 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

Pass It On (Kurt Kaiser) (Garage Band)

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

How Long? (Isaac Wardell) (Garage Band)

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

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me (ELW 325)

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

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me (arr. Raluca Bojor) (Ginger Larson)

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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 Jesus teach the parable of the Good Samaritan and offer a challenge to consider what it truly means to be a neighbor. Being 'neighborly' is not just reserved for those whom we know well or prefer to spend time with. God encourages us to see all people as deserving of neighborly care, even if we are not acquainted, and discover new ways of showing mercy and love despite our differences.

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

Thy Word

Je-sus be my guide and hold me to your side, and I will love you to the end._

I Saw a Stranger

KINGSFOLD 8.6.8.6 D



Anna Strickland, 2024. Commissioned by A Sanctified Art, LLC.

614 - Praise to You, O Christ, Our Savior



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.

New Member Orientation: Today at 10:15 a.m.

Ash Wednesday Rescheduled: March 12 at 6:30 p.m. (In Person & Livestream)

Wednesday Night Worship During Lent: March 19 - April 9 at 6:30 p.m. (In Person & Livestream)

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.

<u>Upcoming Menu:</u> <u>Confirmation Kitchen Helpers:</u>

Soup Suppers During Lent

March 12 - Lentil Soup

March 19 - Polish Hunters Stew

March 26 - French Onion Soup

8th Grade Boys

8th Grade Girls

7th Grade Boys

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

Soup Suppers Served During Lent

Soup Suppers are served on Wednesdays during Lent. We are seeking up to three volunteers per week to bring a favorite soup to share. 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!

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.

Lent Cinnamon Rolls are Back Beginning Today

Starting today and 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.

Women's Bible Study: March 15 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.

New Member Welcome: March 15 & 16

Spring First Communion Class: March 16 at 1:00 p.m.

Contact Pastor Reggie for more information. To sign up for the class, go to <u>crownofglory.org</u> Ministry tab and click on Milestones.

Sunday Conversations: March 16 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: *Whither the Women*?

Men's Pub Ministry: March 20

Join this group at The Savage Tap Craft Beer & Brewery, Savage, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. for good brew and fellowship.

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

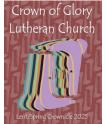
Fare for All is a pop-up grocery store and a great way to save money on quality, nutritious food. Fare For All buys fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, and frozen meat in bulk to save you up to 40% off grocery store prices. Fare For All is community supported and open to everyone. Fare For All accepts cash,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

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, <u>crownofglory.org</u>, hover over the word Ministry, and click on VBS Registration.

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

Cost:

Early Bird Rate (until June 1, 2025)

\$55/camper (includes lunch & snacks)



Holden Evening Prayer Service: Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.

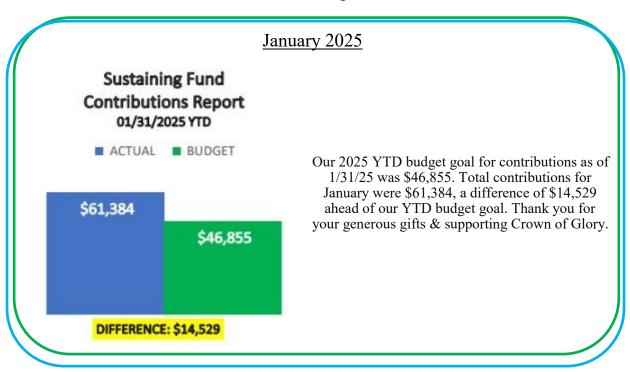
(In Person & Livestream)

The Story of Job: Faithful One of God March 19: Job, A Servant of God March 26: Job's Suffering April 2: God Responds to Job April 9: God's Voice & Job's Final Words





Financial Update



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

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Servant Song Leader Grace Becker		