

EPIPHANY

JANUARY 5, 2025

10:15 am

FAMILY CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

CROSS & CROWN
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Come & See



Come & See

WELCOME

Welcome to worship! We are so glad that you've chosen to worship here! Cross & Crown is a community of Christ-followers from all walks of life. We hope that you will feel a warm welcome from the congregation and will worship with us again!

ADDITIONAL SUNDAY INFORMATION

Sunday school classes are offered for adults & children located in the Multipurpose space. Our adult class, Books of Faith, meets in room 206. The "Purr-fect Praisers" Sunday school class for Pre-K through 1st meets in room 209, and "Catechism Crusaders" Sunday school class for 2nd through 5th grade meets in room 208.

Communion is offered each week. Everyone is invited to the Lord's Table!

Our church has something for everyone, and not just on Sundays. During the week, we have activities such as Bible studies and small groups. On Wednesday evenings we share a fellowship dinner at 6 pm. We hope you'll come try it out! See the back of the bulletin for more details about how to sign up.

Now that you know a little about us, help us get to know you better by completing the Connection Card handed to you by one of our greeters when you entered. You can hand it to one of the pastors or drop it in the offering plate.

PARENTS

We love the sound of kids in our service! Here are some ideas to keep them engaged.

Relax! It's ok to let kids be kids!

Sit close: Consider sitting up front where it's easier for kids to see and hear.

Explain: Kids are curious! Explain what's happening in the service.

Participate: Sing hymns loudly, pray, respond, etc. Children learn by following your lead.

Activities: If you would like a bag of quiet activities for your little ones, ask an usher and they will provide one for you.

Wander: It's ok to move around. Sometimes it's easier to let fidgety kids move a bit.

Need to Leave? No problem, but please come back! Sometimes kids just need a break. There are speakers in the narthex & lounge so you can hear. The narthex is a great place to get the wiggles out, and the lounge is nice if you need privacy.

Ask: Questions or just need help? Just ask one of our ushers.

Childcare: The nursery is down the hall in the Multipurpose Space for infants to age 4 and is available during both worship services. If you need assistance, an usher can help you. C&C Kids is offered to kids pre-K through 3rd grade. Kids depart the sanctuary during the Passing of the Peace and return to worship before communion.

GATHERING

Prelude

I Wonder as I Wander
Handbell Choir

arr. Gramann

Worship Song

○ Praise the Name (Anástasis)

Sampson, Hastings, Ussher

Verse 1

I cast my mind to Calvary
Where Jesus bled and died for me
I see His wounds His hands His feet
My Saviour on that cursed tree

Verse 2

His body bound and drenched in tears
They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb
The entrance sealed by heavy stone
Messiah still and all alone

Chorus

○ praise the Name of the Lord our God
○ praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord oh Lord our God

Verse 3

Then on the third at break of dawn
The Son of heaven rose again
○ trampled death where is your sting
The angels roar for Christ the King

Verse 4

He shall return in robes of white
The blazing sun shall pierce the night
And I will rise among the saints
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face

The Confession

P: Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin. God of life, you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security.

C: **Have mercy on us.**

P: We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation.

C: **Have mercy on us.**

P: Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you.

C: **Have mercy on us.**

P: Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In ✠ Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed.

C: **Amen.**

Prayers of the Church

Refrain

(Yeah) He loves us
Oh how He loves us
Oh how He loves us
Oh how He loves
(REPEAT)

Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves.

Loving God, we gather as your people seeking your presence, your comfort and your love. You brought the nations to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory and show yourself to all the world through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, your Son, Jesus Christ.

Humble the hearts of your faithful people, as we seek to be servants of your gospel and witnesses to your mysteries. Give us boldness in faith, that we make the good news of Christ's birth known to all people. Give us boldness in ministry to step out in faith to share your gospel. Give us boldness to be your voice in the world of chaotic noise.

Nations shall come to your light and kings to your dawning. Establish justice on earth for all its inhabitants. Remove corruption and fear from the hearts of leaders and authorities. Strengthen those that witness war daily especially, Ukraine, Russia, Israel, and Palestine. Defend the cause of all who are in need, all facing poverty, and all who are oppressed. Come quickly to those who feel that their lives and livelihoods are fragile.

And together we sing...
(refrain)

May your light be a healing balm for those that are sick in body, mind or spirit. Give them strength and lead them forth with hope. We pray for those on our congregation's prayer list and that we name aloud or in our hearts at this time.

(We now invite you to speak aloud the names of those for whom you are praying.)

As the magi offered gifts to the Christ child, empower us to give generously. Prosper the work of ministry partnerships in our community. Together, help us share what we have to ensure that our neighbors have enough food, resources, and opportunities.

Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace and we sing our amen...

(Refrain)

(Children may head out for C&C Kids)



Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

Welcome Home and Announcements

THE WORD

Matthew 2:1-12 (NIV)

² After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi^[a] from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.⁴ When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶ “But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.”^[b]”

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

(Please be seated)

Sermon

Pastor Matt Simpkins

THANKSGIVING

Anthem

Do You Hear What I Hear?

Regney, Shayne, Someone

Said the night wind to the little lamb, “Do you see what I see? Way up in the sky, little lamb. Do you see what I see? A star, a star, dancing in the night, with a tail as big as a kite.” Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy, “Do you hear what I hear? Ringing through the sky,

shepherd boy, Do you hear what I hear? A song, a song, high above the tree, with a voice as big as the sea.” Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king, “Do you know what I know? In your palace warm, mighty king. Do you know what I know? A Child, a Child shivers in the cold, Let us bring Him silver and gold.” Said the king to the people everywhere, “Listen to what I say: Pray for peace, people everywhere! Listen to what I say: The Child, the Child sleeping in the night, He will bring us goodness and light.”

(Please stand)

Offertory Response

We Three Kings of Orient Are

1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing
gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.

Refrain
Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;
west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp). The first three staves contain the main melody with lyrics. The fourth staff is the refrain, and the fifth staff continues the melody. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Statement of Belief The Apostles' Creed

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.

Communion

Preface

P: Our God is a good God...

C: **Amen!**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom
come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

As we forgive those who
trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory,

forever and ever.

Amen.

Our Father, who is of heaven,

Holy is your name

Your kingdom come

Your will be done

On earth as it is in heaven

Give us today our daily bread

And forgive us our trespasses

OR

As we forgive those who trespass
against us

And lead us not into temptation
and deliver us from evil

For yours is the kingdom

And the power, and the glory

now and forever, Amen.

Welcome to the Table

P: Come now and feast on the gifts of God for the people of God.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please be seated)

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on



us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Song

Come As You Are

Crowder, Maher, Glover

Verse 1

Come out of sadness from wherever you've
been
Come broken-hearted let rescue begin
Come find your mercy O sinner come kneel
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal

Chorus

(So) Lay down your burdens lay down your
shame
All who are broken lift up your face
O wanderer come home
You're not too far
So lay down your hurt lay down your heart
Come as you are

Verse 2

There's hope for the hopeless
And all those who've strayed
Come sit at the table come taste the grace
There's rest for the weary
Rest that endures
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure

Bridge

Come as you are
Fall in His arms
Come as you are

Verse 3

There's joy for the morning O sinner be still
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal

Ending

Come as you are
Come as you are
Come as you are

The Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in God's
grace. **Amen.**

Benediction

P: The God of love, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, lavish you with grace, illumine your path, and increase your joy, today and always. **Amen.**

Sending Song

One Thing Remains (Your Love Never Fails)

Johnson, Riddle, Gifford

Verse 1

Higher than the mountains that I face
Stronger than the power of the grave
Constant in the trial and the change
One thing remains
One thing remains

Interlude

Your love Your love Your love will never
change

Chorus

Your love never fails
It never gives up
Never runs out on me
(REPEAT)
Your love

Verse 2

On and on and on and on it goes
It overwhelms and satisfies my soul
And I never ever have to be afraid
One thing remains
One thing remains

Bridge

In death in life I'm confident and
Cover'd by the power of Your great love
My debt is paid there's nothing that
Can separate my heart from Your great love
(REPEAT)

Ending

Your love

The Doxology (sung a capella)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Sending

P: Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

C: Thanks be to God.

Children are invited to attend music with Mr. Larry in the choir room.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7TH

Noon- Staff Meeting
8 pm- Women's Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8TH

6 pm- Wednesday Night Happenings
6:45 pm- Handbells
7:30 pm- Choir

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9TH

7 pm- Miriam Circle

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10TH

9 am- Weight Watchers

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11TH

8-10:30 am- Weight Watchers

LOOKING AHEAD

Details for each event are available in the Weekly Update email. Printed versions are available in the narthex.

Congregational Retreat Mission Trip to the Asheville Area

When Hurricane Helene hit western North Carolina, we wanted to go and help our neighbors in need, but they asked for only emergency personnel. Now, we can do hands on work. January 17-19 was planned as a congregational retreat where we would relax and get away. We're giving that up to help our neighbors and friends. Come January 17-19 to Lutheridge and together we can serve our neighbors! This will give us an opportunity as a congregation to be God's hands to our community in need.

We want everyone to attend. Scholarships are available. If you can't attend but want to help make this possible for others to serve please consider a donation. Please contact Pastor Melody.

Here is a breakdown of cost. These rooms are hotel style:

Double Occupancy

- Double occupancy includes 2 Nights (Jan 17th & 18th)
4 Meals (Jan 17: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner) (Jan 18: Breakfast)

\$150 per person

Single Occupancy

- Single occupancy includes 2 Nights (Jan 17th & 18th)
4 Meals (Jan 17: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner) (Jan 18: Breakfast)

\$250 per person

Cost for children rooming with parents:

- Age 0-6 **\$40**
- Age 7-13 **\$50** If you need 2 rooms, please contact LeAnne for pricing.
- Age 14-17 **\$65**

Day Rate for just Saturday is \$65

SCAN TO REGISTER



Retreat from January 2024!

Wednesday Night Happenings

1-8-25

Beef Stew, Green Beans,
Fresh Garden Salad,
Dinner Rolls &
Dessert

6 pm

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Assisting Minister:

Acolyte:

Communion Assistants:

Usher:

Communion Set-up:

Greeters:

Nursery Assistant:

Contribution Counter:

Vaughn Herlong

Naveah McClinton

Mike Meath, Cathy Kozlinski

Garry Rudolph, David Cox

Vivian Farland

Vivian Farland

Ann Whitener

Vivian Farland, Sharon Davis

You can give to C&C by scanning the QR code below.

SCAN TO GIVE



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