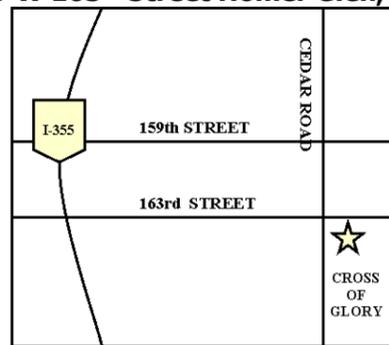




14719 W 163rd Street Homer Glen, IL 60491



Join Us
Sundays 9:30 am
You Are Welcome Here!

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Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

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Homer Glen, Illinois 60491
(708) 301-6998



www.CrossofGlory.com

Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, ELCA



APRIL 2019



Dana O'Brien,
Pastor

HOLY WEEK OPPORTUNITIES TO WORSHIP

Holy Week, the week that begins on Palm Sunday and ends on Easter, is always a busy time here at Cross of Glory. It includes many powerful opportunities to worship. Here are some highlights:

Palm/Passion Sunday Worship Service - Sunday, April 14, at 9:30. We journey through the last week of Jesus' life, beginning with his celebratory entrance into Jerusalem and ending with his death on the cross five days later. We'll use a combination of music, slides and readings, as the entire congregation participates in the story of those final days.

Good Friday Cross Walk -- Friday, April 19, at Noon. Walk with us, as we join other local congregations in downtown Lockport, stopping at various church buildings and ending at the Lockport park band shell to hear from people who were involved in Jesus' passion and crucifixion, including Pilate, Mary, Peter, the centurion, and others. This is a wonderful lead-in to Good Friday worship at Cross of Glory, where we'll continue the theme, "We Were There When They Crucified the Lord."

Good Friday Worship -- Friday, April 19, at 7:00 pm. We will walk with Jesus' through his trial, condemnation and crucifixion via songs, readings, and hands-on experiences, as we continue to look at the Cross Walk theme and explore what Jesus' death means for us today.

Easter Sunday Services -- Sunday, April 21, at 9:30 and 11:00. We celebrate the victory over sin and death on Easter morning, as God raises Jesus to new life. Both the 9:30 and 11:00 services include joyful worship celebrations, as our praise band is supplemented with brass and a choir.

All of these services are wonderful opportunities for people to encounter God through different worship styles and new experiences. Please invite your friends and family to come and meet God at Cross of Glory during Holy Week. Contact the COG office if you would like to help with any of our Holy Week services.

ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD EASTER EGG HUNT--April 20th at 10am Sharp

On Saturday, April 20, Cross of Glory will again host its annual neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt. We'll divide the kids up by age groups and have filled plastic Easter eggs for them to find. After the hunt, everyone is invited inside for food, crafts and cookie decorating. And the Easter Bunny will be around the whole time for some photo ops. The event starts promptly at 10 am, and given how fast kids can move when they are looking for eggs, you'll want to be there a bit early. This event is for the entire community, and we'll have over 2000 filled eggs!! So bring your neighbors and friends, and don't forget an Easter basket to hold your eggs.

And to help us prepare for the hunt, please continue to bring bags of wrapped Easter candy to fill the eggs. (Remember, the candy has to be small enough to fit in those little eggs.) There is a container in the worship area for the candy. We also need volunteers to help on the day of the event - to supervise the egg hunt, lead crafts and help clean up. Sign-up sheets are on the welcome table.

**JOIN US FOR
WORSHIP ON
SUNDAYS 9:30 AM**

Holy Communion at all services. Nursery available every Sunday. You are welcome here!

Dana O'Brien
Pastor
Dana@CrossofGlory.com

Laura Uzzardo
Parish Administrator
Laura@CrossofGlory.com

Todd Mizera
Worship Leader
Todd@CrossofGlory.com

Jamie Knutson
Director of The Welcome Place Preschool
Jamie@TheWelcomePlace.org

Please email or call Laura if you prefer to receive your newsletter via email or mail, or to be taken off our mailing list: laura@crossofglory.com



CrossofGlory.com



Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 20th
10:00am Sharp!
More details on the front page

The Welcome Place
Preschool
Open House
Tuesday, April 23rd
4-7pm

Join us for Easter Sunday
and More.

Palm Sunday April 14 at 9:30 am

Good Friday: April 19 with a Cross Walk (Noon) and Worship (7pm)

*Easter Sunday Services
at 9:30 and 11:00 am*

See more details on the front page

Welcome Statement

We recognize the importance of worshipping with a diverse group of people of any color, age, creed, ethnicity, physical and mental abilities, addictions, legal record, economic status, station in life, life circumstances, marital/family status, heterosexuals, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender people, their partners and their families. We welcome all into full participation in the church life, ministry of the congregation, sacraments, and rites of the church. We are all one in God's eyes, and everyone has a place in the family of God. It is with love and in celebration that we affirm this position.

"There is no longer Jew nor Greek, there is no longer slave nor free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:28

Our Guiding Principles

- Jesus is Lord
- Everyone Is Welcome
- The World Needs What We Have
- Everyone Has Something To Offer
- Love Changes Everything

Our Mission Statement

To be a community of faith in which everyone lives life in the LOOP of God's saving grace by: reaching and serving, welcoming and nurturing, worshipping and teaching, and giving and sending.

Council Members:

Reach out to a council member with any questions or concerns.
Barb Taskay Finances
Allen Kirkland, Outreach
Lisa O'Malley, Fellowship
Bill Bavirsha, Facilities
Samantha Barczi, Discipleship
Dennis Tanrikulu, Worship

Make an online donation on the church website

www.crossofglory.com/giving

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ Church

www.ReconcilingWorks.org

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Contact Cross of Glory Lutheran Church's office for more details on any of the upcoming program and events (708) 301-6998

Wednesday Night With Soup and a Movie

Join us on Wednesday, April 3 and Wednesday April 10 for our last two mid-week Lenten soup suppers. We'll gather for a wonderful meal at 6 pm and then stay to watch and discuss the movie, *The Gospel According to Matthew*. We finish by 7:15.

Easter Plant Sale

Order your tulip and/or lily plant for Easter! All orders will help to decorate the church for Easter Sunday Worship. You may pick up your plant after the Easter service you attend. You may also dedicate your plant "In Honor" or "In Memory" of a loved one. All the plants are \$12 each. Order forms are available on the welcome table, and orders are due back by Palm Sunday, April 14

Cinco de Mayo Fundraiser

Our annual Cinco de Mayo fundraiser is coming up fast. Bring your friends and neighbors and join us on Friday, May 3, starting at 6 pm for a Mexican dinner and celebration, featuring great Mexican food, raffles, music, piñatas for the kids and lots of family fun. All the money raised will go to Centro Infantil de los Angeles, a free day-care and preschool that serves the lowest income families in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico

God in Pixar VBS Coming July 8-11

Registration opens on April 15 for this summer's God in Pixar VBS, which goes from Monday, July 8 through Thursday, July 11. We'll be focusing on how God loves and walks with our kids in the Pixar movies *Incredibles 2*, *Monsters, Inc.*, *Toy Story* and *Finding Nemo*. And every year, we've been filling up earlier, so please tell all your friends about VBS and get your registrations in.

More Fairmont Volunteer Opportunities In April And May

For those of you looking to help in our partnership with Fairmont School, we have a couple more volunteer opportunities coming up:

•**Math Night at Fairmont on April 11.** We need volunteers to help staff the food table (and some volunteers to bring drinks) to this family event. This is a great way to get to meet staff, kids and parents.

•**Daddy/Daughter Dance on April 26 ("A Night in Paris")**. Snacks and people to decorate and help during the event will be needed. Again, this is a great opportunity to meet people from the Fairmont community.

•**Fairmont Career Awareness Day on May 16.** We can use some volunteers around 12:30 to help during the event.

Sign-up sheets are on the welcome table, or call the office if you'd like to help.

Women's Craft Event

Join us on Friday, April 12, at 6:30, as Michelle Eckmayer helps us make great looking spring bunnies. All needed materials are provided, but you can bring a friend and an appetizer or dessert to share. A sign-up sheet is on the welcome table.

New Lenox Parade May 5

We had such a great time in the New Lenox Parade last year, that we're going to give it another go this year. And you can be a part of the fun by joining us on Sunday, May 5, at 1 pm. It's too early for our big VBS push, so we'll be walking behind the Murtaugh's little yellow car with candy and VBS leaflets to hand out. A great way to spend a spring Sunday afternoon!

What's Coming Up on Sundays in April:

We've got a heck of a lot of celebrating going on in April. Check it out:

•**Celebration Sunday on April 7.** We'll celebrate our commitments to our Embracing God's Vision capital appeal and God's many blessings to all of us by enjoying a catered meal after the service and other fun activities. We'll also celebrate everyone with an April birthday.

•**Palm/Passion Sunday on April 14.** Through a combination of music, slides and readings, the entire congregation participates in the story of Jesus' last days. Volunteers are needed for some speaking parts.

•**Easter Sunday Services on Sunday, April 21, at 9:30 and 11:00.** We celebrate the victory over sin and death on Easter morning, as God raises Jesus to new life.

•**Holy Communion Celebration on April 28.** We celebrate with three kids who have learned all about communion. We will recognize their achievements, and they will help lead us in worship. We'll also be recognizing our confirmation mentors and students.

Embracing God's Vision Capital Appeal Thanks

Thank you all for your faithful participation in our Embracing God's Vision capital appeal. Thank you to those who serve on our capital appeal team, to those who worked on our logo, and to those who spoke during worship. Thanks to everyone who read the letters and written materials and attended the information sessions. Thanks to all of you for praying, and asking questions, and seriously considering what God is calling you to share. Thanks to everyone who sees this capital appeal as another opportunity to participate in what God is doing here. And thanks to all of you for joining us for **worship and brunch on Sunday, April 7**, as we celebrate all that God has done in and through this congregation and, more importantly, all that God has planned for our future.

Preschool Open House on April 23

Our Welcome Place Preschool will be holding an open house on *Tuesday, April 23 from 4 to 6:30*. This is a wonderful opportunity for prospective parents to meet the teachers and learn all about the awesome things the kids experience. Please help us get the word out, by telling all your friends and neighbors and anyone else you know who may be looking for a great preschool.

PFLAG Group Starting in April

Starting Tuesday, April 30, we'll have a new group meeting at Cross of Glory. Some of our members have noticed the need for a local PFLAG chapter in this area,

so a new PFLAG group will meet on the last Tuesday of every month from 6:30 to 8 pm. PFLAG is a national support and advocacy group that unites LGBTQ people with families, friends, and allies. Please share this information with anyone you know who may be interested, and contact Michelle Eckmayer if you have any questions.



Be sure to check out the new bulletin board in the Welcome Room. This shows some of the many things Cross of Glory will be doing in 2019 within our building and out in our communities.

CROSS OF GLORY FINANCIAL UPDATE February 2019

| Income | Year to Date |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Offering | \$36,9526.00 |
| Other | \$ 3,460.00 |
| Total | \$ 40,412.00 |
| Expenses | |
| General/Building | \$ 19,671.00 |
| Staff | \$ 28,954.00 |
| Sharing | \$ 3,204.00 |
| Ministries | \$ 1,167.00 |
| Total | \$ 52,996.00 |
| Income/Loss | \$ (12,584.00) |



April is a very busy month for the preschool. Spring Break is the first week of April. We will be learning the Easter Story this month with Pastor Dana and have been celebrating Spring. We will decorate Easter Eggs and make our own Easter baskets. We are talking about how April showers bring May flowers. We've been learning about the changes the Earth is going through and how the days are getting longer.

Our 2nd Open House is scheduled for Tuesday, April 23 from 4-6:30pm and our registration is still going on. And join us for Preschool Sunday on May 5th.

www.crossofglory.com/preschool (website)
The Welcome Place Preschool (Facebook)