

# Sunday Worship & Prayers

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**December 21, 2025**

**8:45am and 10:45am worship services**

**Welcome to Cross of Hope  
a Spirit-centered community that shares Christ's love through  
worship, education, and outreach to develop and strengthen  
relationships with God.**



**CROSS OF HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL**

**Loving God - Transforming Relationships - Serving Others**

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace... Romans 15:13*

## Holy Communion –8:45am – Setting One

*All page and song numbers refer to Evangelical Lutheran Worship unless otherwise noted.*

### GATHERING

Prelude		Amy Ellis
Confession and Forgiveness		
Gathering Hymn	<i>The King Shall Come</i>	Song 260
Apostolic Greeting / Kyrie / Prayer of the Day		

### WORD

First Reading	Isaiah 7:10-16	
Psalm	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19	
Second Reading	Romans 1:1-7	
Advent Gospel Acclamation	<i>Come Now, O Prince of Peace (verse 4)</i>	Song 247
Gospel	Matthew 1:18-25	
Advent Gospel Acclamation with Children's Time Wreath Lighting		
	<i>Come Now, O Prince of Peace (verse 4)</i>	Song 247
Sermon	Let it Go! Expectations	Pr. Adam Berndt
Hymn of the Day	<i>Savior of the Nations, Come</i>	Song 263
Nicene Creed / Prayers of Intercession		
Peace		

### MEAL

Offering		Amy Ellis
Offering Response	<i>He Came Down (verse 4)</i>	Song 253
Great Thanksgiving	<i>The Lord</i>	ELW p. 107
Sanctus	<i>Holy, Holy, Holy Lord</i>	ELW p. 108
The Lord's Prayer		
Communion	<i>Lamb of God</i>	ELW p. 112
	<i>He Comes to Us as One Unknown</i>	Song 737
	<i>Blessed Is the One</i>	ACS Song 929
Prayer After Communion		

### SENDING

Blessing		
Sending Song	<i>People, Look East</i>	Song 248
Dismissal/Postlude		Amy Ellis

## **Holy Communion - 10:45am - Praise +Team**

*All Songs can be followed along with the presentation.*

### **GATHERING**

**Gathering Song**  
**Centering Prayer**  
**Centering Song**

*Old Church Choir*

*Emmanuel, God With Us*

### **WORD**

**Readings**

Isaiah 7:10-16; Romans 1:1-7

**Gospel**

Matthew 1:18-25

**Sermon**

Let It Go! Expectations

Pr. Adam Berndt

**Children's Time Wreath Lighting**

**Song of the Day**

*Joy (Rend Collective)*

**Prayers of the Church**

**Peace**

### **MEAL**

**Offering**

*Noel*

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Communion**

*When Love Was Born*

**Prayer After Communion**

### **SENDING**

**Blessing**

**Sending Song**

*Dream for You*

**Dismissal /Postlude**

### ***Help for the hearing impaired!***

Cross of Hope has a loop system, enabling hearing impaired worshippers to get the service directly into their hearing devices via a telecoil system. We also have headsets you may borrow if your hearing aids are not able to use the loop system.



## WORSHIP NOTES

In Holy Communion, God meets us in the meal. Jesus is truly present, and we come by the Spirit's grace. You are always welcome at God's table. All baptized believers are welcome to share in this, God's gift to us. Receive the bread and eat. *Gluten free option by request.*

Receive the wine (or juice) and drink. Place cup in nearby basket.

### SERVING TODAY

<b>Presiding Minister</b>	Pr. Adam Berndt
<b>Council Connections</b>	Laura Burton
<b>Director of Music Ministry</b>	Thomas Ropp
<b>Accompanist</b>	Amy Ellis
<b>Music Leaders</b>	Praise+Team

*8:45am – Traditional*

<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Jan Wormwood
<b>Acolyte</b>	
<b>Lector</b>	BJ Owens
<b>Cantor</b>	Jan Wormwood
<b>Communion Server</b>	Sherrie Simek
<b>Altar Team</b>	Lynne Bagby

*10:45am - Contemporary*

<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Laura Benchik
<b>Lector</b>	Laura Benchik
<b>Communion Server</b>	Jan Anderson
<b>Altar Team</b>	Jan Anderson

### ***Fourth Sunday of Advent***

Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel.

The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.

*You are created in the image of  
God from the very beginning.*

*This is the basis for God's justice: Since  
everyone is made in the image of God, then we  
need to recognize, honor, and respect the image  
of God in everyone. No exceptions.*

*– Fr. Richard Rohr*

*Cross of Hope is located on the original and  
ancestral homelands of the Piro Tribe and  
Pueblo People, and we give thanks for their  
presence here since time immemorial. We  
also wish to recognize and honor all our  
Indigenous siblings who have and continue  
to call this land their home.*

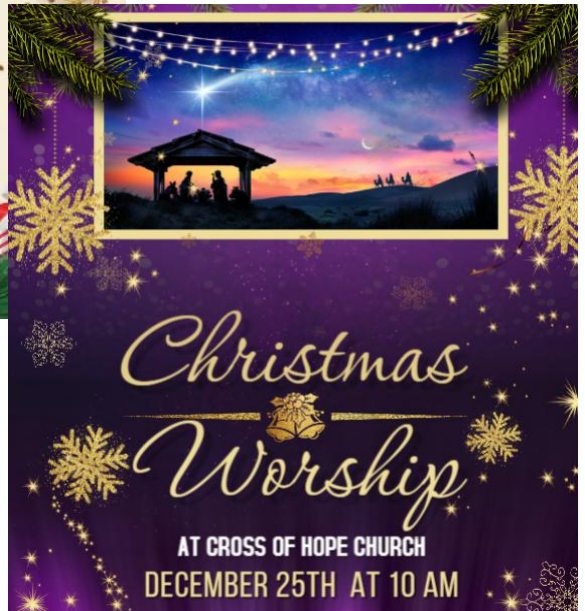


**December Worship**  
**SCHEDULE**

**Christmas Eve Worship**  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH  
4:00PM/ Children's Worship  
6PM/ Praise + Team, 8PM/ Choir

**Christmas Day Worship**  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25TH  
10AM Worship

**1st Sunday of Christmas**  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28TH  
10AM Worship



*Christmas  
Worship*

AT CROSS OF HOPE CHURCH  
DECEMBER 25TH AT 10 AM

Cross of Hope School will be closed for Winter Break  
***December 22 through January 5***

Cross of Hope Church Office will be closed on:  
***Wednesday - December 24 at noon***  
***Thursday - December 25***  
***Friday - December 26***  
***Thursday - January 1, 2026***

**First Sunday of Christmas,  
December 28, 10:00am service**

Thank you in advance for welcoming  
**Pr. Jane Voelkel**  
who will preside in worship  
while Pr. Adam is away celebrating Christmas time with his family.

**Tithe Envelopes**

The 2026 Tithe Envelopes  
are ready to be picked up, located in the Alcove.

For those who wish to start using tithe envelopes,  
please contact, Linda W. in the office.

Office number: 505-897-0047, x102

Email: [office@crossofhope.org](mailto:office@crossofhope.org)



Because of you,  
life doesn't stop

**BLOOD  
DRIVE**

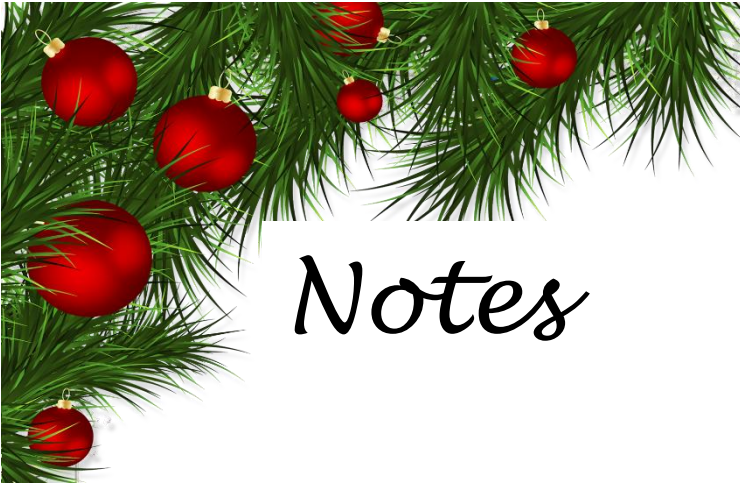
**Sunday, January 18, 2026**

**From 10:00 am to 1:30 pm in the Nursery.**

**To make a lifesaving appointment,  
scan the QR code.**

**Contact Kathy Gorman at 507-304-0079  
or call / text 505-246-1420.**





# *Notes*



## Community Prayers Needs

*Please call or email the church office to add/remove names.*

### Members of the Community:

Mike Leddy; Janet Conlon; Pat Benchik; Toni Kovarik; Wendy Harrison; Don and Beth Cretsinger; Diane and David Pressel; Tim Fuller; Greg Morrison; Bill Harris; Ruth Hinkel; Susan Jennings; Dick Bresnahan; Toni Kovarik; Flora Telles; Claudia Russo; Stacey Taylor; Phil Wangberg; Shirley and Dale McCan; Chris and Julie Morgan; Gary and Fran Hveem; Dolores Hughes; Shannon Reynolds; Judy Will.

### Friends of Cross of Hope:

Dawn Vola (Jennifer's Mom); Jan Meoli (Sherrie Simek); Spencer (Laura Burton's nephew); Roxanne (Keri Sutter's friend); Jennifer (Keri Sutter's friend); Tim (Pat Benchik's brother); Tanya Patterson and Kim Mora (friends of Rhonda Warner); Bill (Beth Locke's brother); Ray and Barbara (friends of Gary Warner); Hart and Joyce Paulat (Kristi Valdez' parents); Mike Nelson (BJ Owens' brother); Barbara (Keri Sutter); Tom McCain (Tim Fuller); Brenda Erhard, Angela McKnight's Mom (Art Kavanaugh); Paula Mickey Yarbrough (Karen Schwartz's neighbor); Susan Mann-Biddison (Toni Kovarik); Margaret George Davis (Linda George's daughter-in-law); Dianah Rowland (friend of BJ Owen); Sandy Jensen (niece of BJ Owen); Cecil Ingram (Joy Thornhill's dad); Virginia Casper (Lynne Bagby's Mom); Randy B (Elisa Mclellan and family); Pam (Debbie Bokan's sister); Melissa, Tim, and Joseph (Gary Warner's niece and her family); Matt Clark (Rosemary Neely); Don Abeyta (Jennifer Abeyta); Frank Lepkowski (Toni Kovarik); Mark Christensen (Rhonda Warner's brother); Lorrie Willoughby (Linda W); Karen (Beth Cretsinger); Tom Grady (Sylvia Oelsner); Erik Hansen (Janet Conlon); Stacey Bender (Lois Casto); Diane Lamp; Theresa Perez; Katie Halstrom (Sorensen's); Judi (Carolyn Bye); Audie (Pat Benchik); Nadine (Kathy Bramley); Ataliya (Dee Gutierrez); Karen (Janet Conlon); Bill Bramley (Todd Bramley); Griselda (Alex Cortinas); Rick O'Roark; Tony Rivera (Deborah Rivera); David Dees.

### Comfort the Grieving:

Bill Casto and family at the death of his brother, Mark.

**For more information on our ongoing ministries or events scan the QR code or go to [Crossofhope.org](http://Crossofhope.org)**

**All Worship Information may be found on [Crossofhope.org](http://Crossofhope.org) In the Worship Section.**

### We appreciate your continued giving at Cross of Hope:

Giving Tab on [crossofhope.org](http://crossofhope.org), Vanco  
Via US Mail  
Online bills pay through your bank.

