

“For outlandish
creatures like us, on
our way to a heart,
a brain, and courage,
Bethlehem is not the
end of our journey
but only the
beginning - not
home but the place
through which we
must pass if ever we
are to reach home at
last.”

— Frederick Buechner



Welcome

Welcome to Cross Sound Church. Whether you are a follower of Jesus, someone interested in Christianity, or a skeptic about faith—God is calling you to worship. Wherever you are in life, we hope you feel welcome and at home. If you have never been to church (or not in a long time) and fear that you will not know what to do, how to act, or what to say, know this: God’s grace is here and is for people like you.

We are a church that loves our cities: Bainbridge Island, Poulsbo, Silverdale, Kingston, and Seattle. And while we actively love and serve our communities, we don’t pretend to have it all together. Instead, we are a church where there is freedom to struggle with our questions, doubts, and fears; and a place where real healing, joy, and power can be found.

We are a church rooted in the belief that the historic Christian gospel is true, compelling, and promises to change our lives powerfully, in the direction of freedom, hope, and generosity.

The gospel, which means ‘Good News’, tells us that God’s Kingdom has entered history in order to renew us and the world. The gospel is more than entering God’s Kingdom, it is also the way we face every struggle in life and make any progress in personal growth.

The good news is that Jesus lived the life we should have lived and died the death we deserved to die in order to put us in a place where only He deserves to be—in a right, safe, thrilling relationship with God the Father.

Cross Sound Church desires to be filled with both believers and non-believers, who together explore the claims of the gospel and its effects on our lives and on the world.

Our aim in worship is both ancient, with liturgy that connects us to the Church of old and those who have gone before us, as well as modern, accessible, and meaningful. Underneath it all is our desire to be God-honoring, God-exalting, God-glorifying!

Let’s worship God together.

Say hello

PASTORS:

Dave Sellers: dave@crosssound.org, or (206) 334-5205

Dave O’Connell: daveoc@crosssound.org, or (314) 853-2695

To learn more about the entire staff and our team of Elders, Deacons, International Ministers, Stephen Ministry and Community Group Leaders please visit our website:

crosssound.org or call our office: **(206) 842-6898**

Gathering

Please join in song when ready

Gloria Patri — *Words: Gloria Patri, 2nd Century*

Music: Karl Digerness, 2009

Glory be to the Father	As it was in the beginning
Glory be to the Son	Shall be forever
Glory be to the Spirit, Three in One	Amen, Amen, Amen

O Come All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold Him, born the King of Angels.

O come let us adore Him,
O come let us a - dore Him,
O come let us a - dore Him,
Christ, the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation;
Sing all ye citizens of heav'n above:
Glory to God in the Highest.

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee
Born this happy morning
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father now in flesh appearing

CALL TO WORSHIP

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.

—Psalm 95:1-2,6-7

Renewing

CONFESSIONS OF SIN

(Confession happens within the context of relationship, both with God and with each other as we acknowledge our need for forgiveness. Jesus promises that He freely forgives sins removing all of our past regrets. You are invited to personalize your confession as we pray silently).

Holy Spirit,

Teach us to be still and know that you are God. Please give us true grief for the way we sin against you. Open our eyes to see clearly your faithfulness and power; your great love and unending patience; your relentless determination to pursue us, captivate us, and ravish us with the truth of the gospel. Show us the unstoppable love of Jesus. Then we will be at peace because you are perfect and strong, and you will never leave us, forsake us, or harm us.

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND RECEIVING OF GRACE

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

—1 Peter 1:3-5

Amen

Amen.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

2nd candle – (purple) The Bethlemlen Candle or The Candle of Preparation: God kept his promise of a Savior who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to “get ready”. Help us to be ready to welcome you, O God!

As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: ‘A voice of one calling in the desert, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. And all mankind will see God's salvation.

—Luke 3:4-6

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence— *Words: Liturgy of St. James, 4th Century Translated from Greek to English by Gerard Moultrie, 1864. Music: PICARDY, French carol melody*

Let all mortal flesh keep silence and with fear and trembling stand
Ponder nothing earthly minded for with blessing in His hand
Christ our God to Earth descendeth our full homage to demand

King of kings yet born of Mary as of old on Earth He stood
Lords of lords in human vesture in the body and the blood
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heavenly food

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way
As the Light of Light descendeth from the realms of endless day
That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away

At His feet the six wing-ed seraph, cherubim with sleepless eye
Veil their faces to His presence as with ceaseless voice they cry
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia Lord most high!

Agnus Dei —*Michael W. Smith*

Alleluia, Alleluia
For the Lord God Almighty reigns
Alleluia, Alleluia
For the Lord God Almighty reigns
Alleluia
Holy, holy are you Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb
You are holy,
Holy are you Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb
Amen

Ever Be — *Kalley Heiligenthal*

Your love is devoted, like a ring of solid gold
Like a vow that is tested, like a covenant of old
And Your love is enduring through the winter rain
And beyond the horizon with mercy for today

Faithful You have been and faithful You will be
You pledge yourself to me
And that's why I sing

Your praise will ever be on my lips, ever be on my lips
Your praise will ever be on my lips, ever be on my lips

You father the orphan, Your kindness makes us whole
You shoulder our weakness, and Your strength becomes our own
Now You're making me like You, clothing me in white
Bringing beauty from ashes, for You will have your bride

Free of all her guilt and rid of all her shame
And known by her true name
And it's why I sing

Your praise will ever be on my lips, ever be on my lips
Your praise will ever be on my lips, ever be on my lips

You will be praised, You will be praised
With angels and saints we sing, "Worthy are You, Lord!"
You will be praised, You will be praised
With angels and saints we sing, "Worthy are You, Lord!"

The largest book in the Bible is primarily a book of poems set to music to sing God's praises. This is all part of God's design to surround His presence with singing. Expressing gratitude to God expresses dependence upon God and is an antidote for cynicism, criticism, and bitterness.

GIVING THANKS

Student Mission Project

MESSAGE

Series: Christmas Songs

Text: Isaiah 42:1-9

Title: The Servant Song

Speaker: Dave Sellers

Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my Spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
²He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
³a bruised reed he will not break,
and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
⁴He will not grow faint or be discouraged
till he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his law.

⁵Thus says God, the Lord,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people on it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
⁶“I am the Lord; I have called you[b] in righteousness;
I will take you by the hand and keep you;
I will give you as a covenant for the people,
a light for the nations,
⁷to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
⁸I am the Lord; that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to carved idols.
⁹Behold, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth
I tell you of them.”

QUOTES

“...And then, just when everything is bearing down on us to such an extent that we can scarcely withstand it, the Christmas message comes to tell us that all our ideas are wrong, and that what we take to be evil and dark is really good and light because it comes from God. Our eyes are at fault, that is all. God is in the manger, wealth in poverty, light in darkness, succor in abandonment. No evil can befall us; whatever men may do to us, they cannot but serve the God who is secretly revealed as love and rules the world and our lives.”

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer

“Into this world, this demented inn
in which there is absolutely no room for him at all,
Christ comes uninvited.”

—Thomas Merton

OFFERING

The earth is the LORD's
and all that is in it, the world,
and those who live in it.

——Psalm 24:1

Emmanuel (Every Promise Yes in Him)— *Caroline Cobb*

Blessed seed of Abraham
Born the nations now to bless
Promised son of mother Eve
Come to crush the serpent's head
Christ, the sinless lamb of God
Every law in Him complete
Slain to ransom rebel hearts
Raised for us a great high priest

He is here! He is here!
Emmanuel, God draws near.
At long last, He has come,
Emmanuel, the Promised One!

Isaiah's servant suffering
By His wounds we are healed
Son of man in Daniel's dream
Glorious myst'ry now revealed
King of kings on David's throne
His rule and reign will never end
He will bring the exiles home
When His advent comes again

The one the prophets longed to know
Emmanuel
The first, the last, the cornerstone
Emmanuel
Every promise finds its yes in Him!
Spirit with us til we sing this song again

The offering is a way for members and friends of Cross Sound Church to support the church's mission and ministry. If you are our guest today, please feel no obligation to give.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

O Lord, our righteousness,
come to your Church as Lord and judge.
We pray for transformation in our lives
and reconciliation in our relationships.
Help us to live in the light of your coming
and give us a longing for your kingdom.
For this, O Lord, we pray:
Lord, hear our prayer.

Son of Man, we pray for the leaders of our country.
Give them wisdom and a desire for justice and peace.
Help us remember that you already sit on your throne,
and before you, all rulers will stand in silence.
For this, O Lord, we pray:
Lord, hear our prayer.

Our Lord, Emmanuel, come to the suffering
as the ultimate Servant and comforter.
We pray for those who are burdened unto despair.
Break into our lives, where we struggle
with sickness and distress,
and set us free to serve you forever.
For this, O Lord, we pray:
Lord, hear our prayer.

Now gathering our prayers into one, let us pray boldly as our
Savior has taught us:

**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 debts, as
we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but
deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory for ever. Amen**

COMMUNION

The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve,
And to give his life as a ransom for many.
—Mark 10:45

Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
And he who has no money, come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.
—Isaiah

Communion, also called the Lord's Supper, is the family meal of Christians. We invite all baptized followers of Jesus Christ to participate. If you are not a follower of Jesus or are not prepared to share in the meal, we encourage you instead to spend this time in prayer ("Prayers for Reflection"). We hope this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with his people, the church.

PRAYERS FOR REFLECTION

Prayer of those struggling with the truth:

Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief:

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sin and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for those struggling with sin:

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my needs, and turn me from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the pioneer and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding— Latin hymn, 5th cent.;

Music: MERTON, by William H. Monk

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding;

“Christ is near,” it seems to say;

“Cast away the works of darkness

O ye children of the day!”

Wakened by the solemn warning,
Let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling,
Shines upon the morning skies.

Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,
Comes with pardon down from heaven;
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
One and all to be forgiven;

So when next He comes in glory,
Wrapping all the world in fear,
May He with His mercy shield us,
And with words of love draw near.

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus — *Charles Wesley (1745);*
Music: Rowland Prichard (1830)

Come Thou long-expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the world Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see Thee,
Dayspring from on high appear;
Come, thou promised rod of Jesse,
Of Thy birth we long to hear;
O'er the hills the angels singing,
News, glad tidings of a birth:
"Go to Him, your praises bringing,
Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Come to earth to taste our sadness,
He whose glories knew no end;
By His life He brings us gladness,
Our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend;
Leaving riches without number,
Born within a cattle stall;
This the ever-lasting wonder:
Christ was born the Lord of all!

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

HONORING

John Morrow

Sending

BENEDICTION

May God the Son come among us in power
and reveal in our midst the promise of his glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be among you, and remain with you always.

–Romans 15:13

^{All} **Amen**

The benediction, different from good wishes or even a prayer, is a pronouncement of God's blessing. God sends us out in peace, giving us his presence as we go to be blessing-bearers to the world.

Announcements

AWANA needs volunteers and leaders! Please sign the clipboard or contact Katie Fixter kfixter5@gmail.com

Feeling alone, anxious, perhaps grieving this Christmas season? Consider a Stephen Minister to walk alongside you
Call Sue (206)714-5986 or Dick (415)847-8984

Prison Fellowship's Angel Tree Program - Please bring gifts by December 12th. Want to help with organizing gifts, making cards or delivering gifts? Contact Dede Knapp at dede.knapp@hotmail.com

Dec. 10 Grandparenting Event 6-8PM: Join us at the church office for a simple meal at 6:00 pm and then watch the 7th DVD in the Tim and Darcy Kimmel series. Jim or Carolyn Gillick at 360-621-1533.

"For unto you is born....." We would love you and/or your child to participate in our 12th annual CSC Christmas Pageant on Sun, Dec 16 during church. (Two practices; Sun, 12/2 and Sun, 12/9 8:45 – 10 a.m. & a dress rehearsal on Saturday, 12/15 @ 10:00 a.m. @ BHS.) Many roles are available and helpers needed in all areas. Fliers on greeters tables and at kids classrooms!

Christmas Eve Services: We will be having 2 services for Christmas Eve. The first will be a family friendly service at 5PM. The second will be candlelight Lessons and Carols service at 7pm. Childcare will be provided for the 7pm service. Both services will be at BHS Commons.

You don't need to go it alone...Join a Community Group!

Cross Sound Community Groups are small groups of 10-16 members. The groups meet weekly, bi-weekly or monthly in homes. The time together is split among Bible study, personal application and relationships. Please email Roger Barber irbarbers@gmail.com if you are interested in joining or changing a group. Please indicate the group or day of the week that you are interested in joining.

DivorceCare will begin Jan. 14th- April 8th 6:30-8:30 at CSC office
Contacts: Lisa Wangen 206-488-8404 or Trish Hendrick 509-599-2060

SAVE THE DATE March 22-24: Women's Spring Retreat

CSC Women's Retreat: join us this spring for our retreat— "Holding On to Hope", with guest speaker Ekemini Uwan. We will be gathering at Cascades Camp in Yelm, WA for a weekend of great teaching and fellowship, as well as time to reflect, relax, and rejuvenate. Cost is \$200/ pay what you are able. Register and pay online at crosssound.org. Space is limited, so don't delay! (would make a great Christmas gift!)
Questions? kerri@crosssound.org; 402-770-5636

Save the Date: Men's Retreat: September 13-15, 2019 @ Fort Warden. Walt Wiley, founder/president "Winning with Encouragement" will speak. A former *Walk Thru the Bible* seminar instructor and chaplain of the Atlanta Braves, Walt speaks and teaches regularly in various settings. His style is motivational, inspirational, Biblical, practical and peppered with lots of humor. Walt and his wife Patti live in Charlotte, NC and have two grown sons.

Financial Update: Last week's total: \$13,997.91 Annual Budget (7/17-6/18): \$977,232 Budgeted Income to Date \$460,070 Actual Income to Date \$378,152

Hope & Healing

Maureen is the first born of six children. She had a challenging childhood and was on the streets as a youth with her children. Through a local church, she came to faith in Jesus Christ and then married Charles Ouma Samba. She went back to school. At 22 years old, married and mother of four children, Maureen found herself in class with 15 year olds completing her secondary education. She started taking college courses in theology, missions, leadership and peer counseling. On April 22, 2017 Maureen received a Bachelor of Arts in Bible and Theology with honors.

Maureen Faith Samba is our sister and pastor of our Sister Church In Miwani, Kenya. Her husband Charles is an elder. Maureen leads worship and Sunday School on Sundays. Week days she has cell groups and ministers house to house especially with women and children.

Miwani is in a impoverished rural area of Kisumu county, Kenya where 1 in 5 children do not live to see their fifth birthday.

CS Kids and Youth Group

CS Kids and Youth Group

All children newborn through 6th grade need to check in and wear their printed nametag before they arrive at class.

Small Beginnings Nursery (new-2yrs) Room #234

Contact: Laura O'Connell, oconnells1908@yahoo.com. Children are invited to be dropped off at this class before the church service begins.

Cross Sound Kids:

Contact: Laura O'Connell, lauraoc@crosssound.org, Katie Fixter, katie@crosssound.org, or Kate Pippingier, katepippingier@gmail.com. Children will attend the worship portion and then be sent to their classrooms as a whole Sunday school group.

Little Kids (2-4 years, must be potty trained) Room #232

Lead Teachers: Lacey Redinger, Krista Schei, Richard St. Cyr,
Joanna Wang, Keith and Mary Van Eaton

Pre-K/Kindergarten Room #231

Lead teachers: Andy and Kristin Dafoe, Keagan Daniels,
Candace Luckman, Kareese Pippingier,
Dan and Michelle Layton

First & Second grades Room #229

Lead teachers; Jennifer Cordell, Beth Johnston, Betty Ann Lyons,
Nate and Dinha Moore, Diane and Veronica Stever

Third & Fourth grades Room #225

Lead teachers; Knox Duncan, Patrick and Jenny Kilby,
Clint and Chelsea Ramsey, Carol Raney

Fifth & Sixth grades Room #222

Lead teachers; Carrie Sellers, Trish Maguire, Bill Parrott.

YOUTH GROUP

Junior High, Bainbridge High School Library

Lead teachers; Carrie Beyer, John Daniels, Sean Luckman

Senior High, Bainbridge High School Library

Lead teachers; Jamie Brouwer, Chip Halbert, Kerry Sutorius,
Dana Webber

Community Groups

Unless otherwise noted each of the following groups meet on Bainbridge Island:

<u>Leader</u>	<u>Night</u>
Dave Sellers	Tuesday (Kid Friendly)
Chip Halbert	Thursday (Kid Friendly)**
Bob Cordell & Bill Parrott	Thursday (Poulsbo)(Kid Friendly)
Mark Koenig	Thursday (Poulsbo)
Linda Gordon & Roger Barber	Saturday
Patrick Kilby	Sunday (late afternoon)(Kid Friendly)
Dave O'Connell.	Sunday (Kid Friendly)
Jeff Ogard	Sunday (Poulsbo)

** Group is full - currently closed

To sign up or get further information on any of our community groups please contact Roger Barber - irbarbers@gmail.com

Connect With Us

If you are new to Cross Sound Church, please tear this portion off and put it in the offering to let us know you were here. You may also use this to inform us of any changes in your contact information, or to submit prayer requests for the staff to pray over.

First time visitor
Second time visitor
Regular attendee

Interested in more info for:
_____ Ministry

Please add me to:
Email list Mailing list

Name(s): _____

Children & their ages: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Email(s): _____

Prayer Requests: _____

If you have prayer requests or prayers of thanksgiving that you would like to share please email Penny@crosssound.org or indicate on the prayer request page and drop it in the offering basket. Our prayer team prays for these requests throughout the week.

NOTES: