



Lord, I believe;
help my unbelief
is the best any of us
can do really, but
thank God is enough.

Frederick Buechner,
The Magnificent Defeat



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2021
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Order of Worship
www.CrossSound.org

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 and 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 and Community Group Leaders, visit our website: crosssound.org call our office: (206) 842-6898 or email info@crosssound.org

As we gather to worship, please silence all mobile phones and devices for the duration of the service.

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

CALL TO WORSHIP — Psalm 107:1-3,8-9

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!
Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,
whom he has redeemed from trouble
and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of man!
For he satisfies the longing soul,
and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Make confession to God the Lord, and let everyone acknowledge with me his/her sin and iniquity.

**The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem;
we cling to the things of this world.
We are blinded to your prophetic Word;
forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.
We have sinned;
forgive and heal us.
Amen.**

RECEIVING OF GRACE — Romans 5:18-19, 1 Cor. 15:22

Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men,
so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men.
For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners,
so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

Renewing

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

1st candle – (purple) The Prophecy Candle or Candle of Hope:
We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our hope comes from God!

“The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 15In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. 16In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’” — Jeremiah 33:14-16

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence — *Words: Liturgy of St. James, Translated 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!

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

No One Like Our God — *Matt Redman*

Hallelujah, chains are broken, Your death has spoken life to us
And every accusation, all our condemnation, Silenced at the cross

Hallelujah, free salvation, The burden of a world so lost
Lifted from our shoulders, Carried by the Savior's passion at the cross

*There is no one like our God, There is no one like our Savior
How great is Your blessing, How great is Your love, There is no one like our God*

Hallelujah, free salvation, The burden of a world so lost
Lifted from our shoulders, Carried by the Savior's passion at the cross

Chorus

Never has there been, Never will there be
A God like You who came down in mercy
Never will there be, A greater hope than this
There is no one like our God

Chorus

Lion and the Lamb — *Leeland Mooring, Brenton Brown, Brian Johnson*

He's coming on the clouds, Kings and kingdoms will bow down
Every chain will break, As broken hearts declare His praise
For who can stop the Lord Almighty

*Our God is the Lion, the Lion of Judah
He's roaring with power, And fighting our battles
And every knee will bow before Him
Our God is the Lamb, the Lamb that was slain
For the sins of the world, His blood breaks the chains
Every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb
Every knee will bow before Him*

Open up the gates, Make way before the King of kings
The God who comes to save, Is here to set the captives free
For who can stop the Lord Almighty
Who can stop the Lord Almighty

STUDENT DISMISSAL

With the exception of the nursery, all students begin in the worship service. Upon dismissal students gather in room 231 for large group, then on to individual classes: Nursery Rm 234, PreK-2nd Rm 232, 3rd-6th Rm 231

QUOTES:

'When we are not grateful for the little things, it is only a very short step to no longer being grateful for anything. When we do not enjoy and savor and love and laugh and delight in the little things, then we are heading towards losing our delight in anything.'
— David Gibson

'...to say grace before a meal is among the highest and most honest expressions of our humanity...Here, around the table and before witnesses, we testify to the experience of life as a precious gift to be received and given again. We acknowledge that we do not and cannot live alone but are beneficiaries of the kindness and mysteries of grace upon grace.' — Norman Wirzba

'We measure time by its deaths, yes, and by its births. For time is also told by life. As some depart, others come. The hand opened in farewell remains open in welcome. I, who once had grandparents and parents, now have children and grandchildren. Like a flowing river that is yet always present, time that is always going is always coming. And that time is told by death and birth is held and redeemed by love, which is always present. Time, then, is told by love's losses, and by the coming of love, and by love continuing in gratitude for what is lost. It is folded and enfolded forever and ever, the love by which the dead are alive and the unborn welcomed into the womb. The great question for the old and dying, I think, is not if they have loved and been loved enough, but if they have been grateful enough for love received and given, however much. No one who has gratitude is the onliest one. Let us pray to be grateful to the last.'
— Wendell Berry

Message

Title: Annual Gratitude Service

Speaker: Dave Sellers

Every year, on the Sunday after Thanksgiving, we take some time in our service to do an “open mic” of gratitude. In the Old Testament there was the practice of a Thank Offering in which you would go to the temple and tell your gratitude story before others and officially confess God’s goodness publicly with an offering. In the New Testament Jesus is the great Thank offering.... we tie into Him with “a sacrifice of praise.” We invite you to share a “gratitude.”

Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. — 1 Thessalonians 5:18

CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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. *universal

OFFERING — Matthew 6:19-20

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth,
where moth and rust consume
and where thieves break in and steal;
but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven,
where neither moth nor rust consumes
and where thieves do not break in and steal.
For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Give Me Jesus — *Traditional African-American Arr. by Fernando Ortega*

In the morning when I rise,
In the morning when I rise,
In the morning when I rise give me Jesus.

Give me Jesus, give me Jesus.
You can have all this world,
But give me Jesus.

And when I am alone,
Oh, and when I am alone,
And when I am alone give me Jesus.

And when I come to die,
Oh, and when I come to die,
And when I come to die, give me Jesus.

You can have all this world,
You can have all this world,
You can have all this world,
But give me Jesus.

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 Savior 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.

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 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 forever and ever. Amen

Sending

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

— *Words: 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.

BENEDICTION — Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you
with all joy and peace in believing,
so that by the power of the Holy Spirit
you may abound in hope. **Amen.**

Announcements

Christmas Wreaths and Greens: Pick up Dec 3 If you ordered, Linda Gordon will email you on Dec. 1 with pick up details. Thank you, again, for your order!

CS Kid's Interactive Advent Books are Here! Pick your family's copy of Ann Voskamp's *'The Wonder of the Greatest Gift'* TODAY at the check-in table!

Annual Christmas Pageant: Sunday Dec. 19! Rehearsals will be Sunday 12/5 & 12/12 at 9am (outside Sunday school classrooms), and Saturday Dec 18th from 10am-12pm (HS 100 Building). Sign-up here for roles and volunteer positions: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084AAEA728A64-cross3>

Angel Tree Gifts It is that time of year again! Join Cross Sound Church as we bless children that have incarcerated parents through our participation in the Angel Tree program. We are giving gifts *virtually* again this year: children will receive a gift card and get to pick out their own gift. We know this may not be quite as fun (for us) as gathering actual gifts, but it is a huge blessing these families and children during the holidays! Cross Sound has committed to sponsoring 100 children this year – sign up today using access code NORHV (*note that is a ZERO, not an O*): <https://vat.angeltreetool.org/921fc34f-ad74-4039-a4e6-dc1dd0ec6b4c>

Church Luncheon Our next gathering will follow the Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 19: Soup, Bread, Mac n' Cheese Bake! Mark your calendars and bring something to share! We look forward to spending time with you!

Socks & Underwear: Last Call before donations are distributed! Cross Sound Youth is looking to gather 200 pairs of new warm winter socks and underwear which will be part of our gift bags to the homeless this winter. Donations can be dropped at our office (600 Ericksen Ave. N.E.) in a bin outside the office door or at church. The drive ends TODAY! Thank you!

Men's Event: Hang Out: Thurs, Dec 9, 5:30 pm at Brass Kraken in Poulsbo.

Positions Available

WOMEN'S MINISTRY LEAD: PART-TIME POSITION Women's Ministry at Cross Sound is committed to encouraging and equipping women to share the transforming presence of Jesus Christ, both in and outside the Church. If you're interested in finding out about this position *email Dave Sellers* dave@crosssound.org

SOUND & VIDEO LEAD: PART-TIME POSITION. Primarily performed on Sunday mornings, this person would be in charge of overseeing the sound and livestream set-ups, managing livestream videos, and managing the high school students and grads who are currently doing these tasks. Experience in these areas or related technology aptitude is helpful, but not required for those interested in the position. *Please reach out to* info@crosssound.org*with interest or inquiries.*

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 Interested in more info for: _____
Second time visitor _____ Ministry Please add me to:
Regular attendee _____ Email list
Mailing list

Name(s): _____

Children & their ages: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Email(s): _____

Prayer Requests/Comments: _____

We hope these are helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and His people, the church.

Prayer for the Skeptic

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 my turn 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.

Prayer of Commitment

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your spirit. Amen.