



The ultimate test
of our spirituality
is the measure of our
amazement at the
grace of God.

—
Martyn Lloyd-Jones

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 10, 2024
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 O'Connell: daveoc@crosssound.org (314) 853-2695
and Dave Sellers: dave@crosssound.org (206) 334-5205

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

LENT

The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ are at the heart of the gospel, and Good Friday and Easter are two of the most significant celebrations of the year. Lent is a season of preparation and repentance during which we anticipate Good Friday and Easter. Just as we carefully prepare for big events in our personal lives, such as a wedding or graduation, Lent invites us to make us ready for remembering Jesus' death and celebrating Jesus' resurrection. The practice of a forty-day preparation period began in the Church during the third and fourth centuries. The number forty carries biblical significance based on the forty years Israel spent in the wilderness and Jesus' forty-day fast in the wilderness. The forty days of Lent begin on Ash Wednesday and continue through holy week, not counting Sundays (which are always days of feasting, celebrating in worship.)

CALL TO WORSHIP — Psalm 89:1-2 & 14-15

I will sing of the Lord's unfailing love forever!

Young and old will hear of your faithfulness.

Your unfailing love will last forever.

Your faithfulness is as enduring as the heavens.

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne.

Unfailing love and truth walk before you as attendants.

Happy are those who hear the joyful call to worship,

for they will walk in the light of your presence.

Renewing

CONFESSION OF SIN

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

Gracious Father, We acknowledge and confess before you our sinful nature, our shortcomings, and offenses. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your way, in wasting your gifts, and in forgetting your love. Forgive us, dear Father.

In your love, please renew us in your grace, and remind our forgetful hearts that Jesus bore our every sin upon the cross. Allow us to joyfully look to Him, who is all-together beautiful and good.

We ask these things in His name, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND RECEIVING OF GRACE

Jesus Christ gave his life to free us from every kind of sin,
to cleanse us, and to make us his very own people.

— Titus 2:14

So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus...
Nothing can ever separate us from God's love.

— Romans 8:1 & 38

His Mercy Is More — Matt Boswell and Matt Papa

What love could remember no wrongs we have done,
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

*Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn,
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more*

What patience would wait as we constantly roam,
What father, so tender, is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor,
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

*Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn,
Our sins they are many, his mercy is more*

What riches of kindness He lavished on us,
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford,
Our sins they are many, his mercy is more

*Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn,
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more
Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn,
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more*

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.

Come Alive (Dry Bones)

Through the eyes of man it seems There's so much we have lost
As we look down the road Where all the prodigals have walked
And one by one the enemy Has whispered lies And led them off as slaves

But I know that You are God Yours is the victory
We know there is more to come, That we may not yet see
So with the faith You've given us, We step into the valley unafraid

We call out to dry bones, Come alive, come alive!
We call out to dead hearts, "Come alive, come alive!"
Up out of the ashes, Let us see an army rise.
We call out to dry bones, "Come alive!"

God of endless mercy, God of unrelenting love,
Rescue every daughter, Bring us back the wayward sons
And by Your Spirit breathe upon them, Show the world that You alone can save

We call out to dry bones, Come alive, come alive!
We call out to dead hearts, "Come alive, come alive!"
Up out of the ashes, Let us see an army rise.
We call out to dry bones, "Come alive!"

So breathe, oh breath of God, Now breathe, oh breath of God,
Breathe, oh breath of God, Now breathe
So breathe, oh breath of God, Now breathe, oh breath of God,
Breathe, oh breath of God, Now breathe
So breathe, oh breath of God, Now breathe, oh breath of God,
Breathe, oh breath of God, Now breathe
So breathe, oh breath of God, Now breathe, oh breath of God,
Breathe, oh breath of God, Now breathe

We call out to dry bones, Come alive, come alive!
We call out to dead hearts, "Come alive, come alive!"
Up out of the ashes, Let us see an army rise.
We call out to dry bones, "Come alive!"
We call out to dry bones, "Come alive!"

Continue To Love Me

Continue to love me, with that same love, Righteous and unchanging
Continue to love me, with that same love, Priceless and unfailing

*Your love, it reaches to the sky, Your righteousness, a mountain high
How priceless, Your unending love
Both high and low among men Take cover under Your wings
How priceless, Your unending love*

Continue to love me, with that same love, Righteous and unchanging
Continue to love me, with that same love, Priceless and unfailing

*Your love, it reaches to the sky, Your righteousness, a mountain high
How priceless, Your unending love
Both high and low among men Take cover under Your wings
How priceless, Your unending love*

*Your love, it reaches to the sky, Your righteousness, a mountain high
How priceless, Your unending love
Both high and low among men Take cover under Your wings
How priceless, Your unending love, How priceless, Your unending love
How priceless, Your unending love*

STORIES FROM CUBA — Keith & Ben Van Eaton and Eli Brouwer
Video created by Adela Roa

ANNOUNCEMENTS, STUDENT DISMISSAL & GREETING
Please stand and introduce yourself to one another.

Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you.

—Romans 15:7

SERIES: ON THE ROAD WITH JESUS

TITLE: Invitations, Excuses & Grace

TEXT: Luke 14:15-23

Speaker: Dave O'Connell

¹⁵ One of those at the table... said to Jesus, "Blessed is the one who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God."

¹⁶ Jesus replied: "A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests. ¹⁷ At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.'

¹⁸ "But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said, 'I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.'

¹⁹ "Another said, 'I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I'm on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.'

²⁰ "Still another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.'

²¹ "The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.'

²² "Sir,' the servant said, 'what you ordered has been done, but there is still room.'

²³ "Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full.'

COMMUNION — *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 baptized or not prepared to share in the meal, we encourage you instead to spend this time in prayer (see back cover for "Prayers of Reflection").*

He was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins.
He was beaten so we could be whole.
He was whipped so we could be healed.
All of us, like sheep, have strayed away.
We have left God's paths to follow our own.
Yet the Lord laid on him the sins of us all.

—Isaiah 53:5-6

Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.

—Isaiah 55:1

OFFERING — *Offering is a way for members and friends to support the worship and work of the church, its mission and ministry. There are different ways to give:*

- Offering basket: place Check or Cash in a Giving Envelope on Sunday mornings
- Cross Sound app: look up "Church Center" on the App Store and follow prompts
- Online: www.crosssound.org/give • Stock: contact bookkeeper@crosssound.org
- Mail: Cross Sound Church PO Box 11748 or 600 Ericksen Ave NE #210, Bainbridge Is., WA 98110



Each one must give as he has decided in his heart,
Not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
And God is able to make all grace abound to you,
So that having all sufficiency in all things at all times,
You may abound in every good work.”

— 2nd Corinthians 9:7-8

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song
This cornerstone, this solid ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My comforter, my all in all, Here in the love of Christ I stand!

In Christ alone who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied –
For every sin on Him was laid: Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious day, Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory, Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine – Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till he returns or calls me home, Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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, The power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

Sending

The Blessing

The Lord Bless You, And Keep You,
Make His Face Shine Upon You, And Be Gracious To You
The Lord Turn His Face Toward You, And Give You Peace

The Lord Bless You, And Keep You,
Make His Face Shine Upon You, And Be Gracious To You
The Lord Turn His Face Toward You, And Give You Peace

A – men, A – men, A - men

The Lord Bless You, And Keep You,
Make His Face Shine Upon You, And Be Gracious To You
The Lord Turn His Face Toward You, And Give You Peace

A – men, A – men, A - men
A – men, A – men, A - men

May His Favor Be Upon You, And A Thousand Generations
And Your Family And Your Children, And Their Children And Their Children
May His Favor Be Upon You, And A Thousand Generations
And Your Family And Your Children, And Their Children And Their Children

May His Presence Go Before You, And Behind You And Beside You
All Around You And Within You, He Is With You, He Is With You
In The Morning, In The Evening, In Your Coming And You Going
In Your Weeping And Rejoicing, He Is For You, He Is For You
He Is For You, He Is For You, He Is For You, He Is For You
He Is For You, He Is For you, He Is for You, He Is For You

A – men, A – men, A - men
A – men, A – men, A - men
A – men, A – men, A - men
A – men, A – men, A - men

BENEDICTION

May the Father rejoice over you with gladness;
May Christ Jesus renew you in his love;
May the Holy Spirit give you his peace.
May our triune God send us forward in His joy,
to love and serve our world.

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

Cuba Lunch & Learn after church TODAY! All are welcome!

PALM SUNDAY: March 24 - CSC Kids lead us into worship with the waiving of Palm Branches. Please arrive a few minutes early - it's a sweet tradition!

GOOD FRIDAY: March 29 at 7pm at the HS Theater

EASTER SERVICE: March 31 - He Is Risen! Bring a friend and celebrate with us!

PRUE HOUSE POTLUCK - You are invited to an Easter Potluck at Prue House, directly following Easter Service, with something to share. See you there!

Game Night on Friday, March 15 Join the women of CSC as we gather at the home of Nancy Lim to play games and laugh together. Bring your favorite snack or beverage to share - or just bring yourself and join us for some fun and games!

March 22: Comedy Night Fundraiser! A Free dinner with Benefit Auction, supporting Young Life BINK, featuring Comedian Robert G Lee. 8595 East Day Road, BI at 6pm. Pre-Registrater at bink.younglifetickets.com/comedy-night

Egg Dash - March 30, 10am-noon: Woodward Middle School We're putting on the annual BI Egg Dash in partnership with New Life again this year and we need your help! There are several ways to get involved: 1. Donate candy to the church office, or here on Sundays (individually wrapped, no hard candy please.) 2. Help us stuff eggs (there are 10,000!) Contact suzanne@crosssound.org to pick up eggs to stuff at home, with your community group, etc, or stop by the church office Sunday March 24 between 12-4 pm and stuff eggs with us! 3. Help with set-up and activities on the day of the event - sign up here: <https://bit.ly/bieggdash2024>



Annual Cross Sound Women's Retreat, April 19-21 at Fort Worden State Park

Getting away with God can look like many things, but it is absolutely essential to doing life with Jesus, not just for him. Come enjoy rest, rediscover spaciousness, and deepen your relationship with Jesus and others through creating an ancient Benedictine tradition called A Rule of Life. Early Bird special ends 3/1. Bring your friends! *Register online, clipboard sign up or email: katiepearson@crosssound.org.*



GriefShare has returned with an 11-week class Thursdays February 29-May 9 at church office 9:45-noon. A recovery program for those who have lost a loved one from death (spouse, older child, family member, friend, co-worker.etc). Brings hope, comfort and healing in a safe confidential environment. Contact Sue MacFarlane: 206-714-5986

If you have any announcements that you would like included in the bulletin, please email Kristin@crosssound.org by Wednesday afternoons. Include basic info: Who, What, When and how to sign up!

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: Please add me to:
Second time visitor () _____ Ministry () Email list ()
Regular attendee () 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.