

“The giving of gifts is not something man invented. God started the giving spree when he gave a gift beyond words, the unspeakable gift of His Son.”

— Robert Flatt



# 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](mailto:dave@crosssound.org), or (206) 334-5205

Dave O’Connell: [daveoc@crosssound.org](mailto: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](http://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 co-me 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

Come, let's sing to the Lord;

Let's make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

Let's worship the Lord.

For he has visited and redeemed his people.

—Adapted from Psalm 95:1-2 & Luke 1:68

# 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).*

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

**Heavenly Father,**

**As we come to this last Sunday of Advent,  
We want to worship and celebrate Jesus, who  
Stepped into this world out of a great and  
Unstoppable love for us.**

**We want to reflect again on his humble entrance,  
When he exchanged his throne and his glory,  
For a feeding trough in a barn.**

**But as we come, we know we need your grace.**

**We continue to turn our back on you,  
At so many times and in so many ways.**

**Forgive us dear, Father.**

**We know our sin is great.**

**But we our Jesus is greater.**

**So on this last Sunday before Christmas,**

**We thank you for the joy, peace & forgiveness He brings!**

**In Jesus, we pray.**

**Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND RECEIVING OF GRACE

“Christ suffered for our sins once for all. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God.” —1Peter 3:18a (NLT)

Know this joy this morning.

Celebrate Him, and His grace.

You are loved.

You are forgiven.

You are His.

Amen.

**Amen.**

## ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

*The Angel Candle or The Candle of Love (purple candle):*

*The shepherds received a message of joy!*

The angels announced the good news of a Savior!

“...I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord” — Luke 2:10b-11

God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us!

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.” — John 3:16-17

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*Text in bold is read by the entire congregation. Plain text is read by the worship leader only.*

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**O Little Town of Bethlehem** — *Words: Phillips Brooks, 1867;*

*Music: ST. LOUIS by Lewis H. Redner, 1868*

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie;  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by.  
Yet in the dark streets shineth  
The everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary;  
And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep the angels keep  
Their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars together  
Proclaim the holy birth;  
And praises sing to God the King,  
And peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently  
The wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of His heav'n.  
No ear may hear His coming,  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him still,  
The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in,  
Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord, Emmanuel.

**Good Christian Friends, Rejoice** — *Words: Heinrich Suso (?-1366);*

*trans. from Latin to English by John M. Neale, 1853.*

*Folklore has it that Suso, hearing angels singing these words, joined them in a dance of worship.*

*Music: In Dulci Jubilo, 14th cent. German melody*

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul, and voice;  
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;  
Ox and sheep before Him bow; and He is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;  
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He has opened heaven's door and we are blessed forevermore.  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;  
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all, to gain His everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

**Hark, the Herald Angels Sing** — Charles Wesley (1739)

Hark, the herald angels sing  
“Glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on earth and mercy mild  
God and sinners reconciled”  
Joyful, all ye nations rise  
Join the triumph of the skies  
With the angelic host proclaim:  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem”  
Hark! The herald angels sing  
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Christ by highest heav’n adored  
Christ the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold Him come  
Offspring of a Virgin’s womb  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see  
Hail the incarnate Deity  
Pleased as man with man to dwell  
Jesus, our Emmanuel  
Hark! The herald angels sing  
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Son of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings  
Ris’n with healing in His wings  
Mild He lays His glory by  
Born that man no more may die  
Born to raise the sons of earth  
Born to give them second birth  
Hark! The herald angels sing  
“Glory to the newborn King!”

GIVING THANKS

Giving thanks to God for our December Mexico Homebuilding Trip.

GREETING

Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you.

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*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.*

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## MESSAGE

**Series: Christmas Songs**

**Text: Luke 2:8-14**

**Title: The Songs of Christmas**

**Speaker: Dave O'Connell**

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup>An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup>Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

<sup>13</sup>Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

## QUOTES

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*It has been the practice of the church for thousands of years to have portions of the Bible read during worship services. We do this because we are people who need to be shaped by all of God's word.*

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## OFFERING

You know the generous grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich.

The one who plants generously will get a generous crop. You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully."

—2nd Corinthians 8:9 & 9:6-7

### **Angels We Have Heard on High**

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heavenly song?  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing,  
Come, adore on bended knee,  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord Jesus,  
The angels were awed by your coming.  
They proclaimed peace & joy in you.  
Help their song to reverberate deep in our hearts,  
And to be sounded out in and through our lives too.  
For this, O Lord, we pray:  
Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus,  
You are the God who enters in.  
There is no one who gives and loves like you.  
Be with all those this season, who are struggling;  
Bring your light, your love, your touch.  
For this, O Lord, we pray:  
Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus,  
This Christmas, help us to celebrate you as King.  
In churches and homes, in every corner of the globe,  
Make known your glory. Make known your grace.  
Bring people into your kingdom of joy and peace.  
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

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*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.*

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## 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.*

**Once in Royal David's City**— Words: Cecil F. Alexander, 1848  
Music: IRBY, Henry J. Gauntlett, 1849

Once in royal David's city  
Stood a lowly cattle shed  
Where a mother laid her Baby  
In a manger for His bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little Child.

He came down to earth from Heaven  
Who is God and Lord of all  
And His shelter was a stable  
And His cradle was a stall:  
With the poor, oppressed, and lowly,  
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

And He is our childhood's pattern  
Day by day, like us He grew  
He was little, weak and helpless  
Tears and smiles like us He knew  
And He cares when we are sad  
And He cares when we are glad.

And our eyes at last shall see Him  
Through His own redeeming love  
For that Child so dear and gentle  
Is our Lord in heav'n above  
And He leads His children on  
To the place where He is gone

# Sending

**Angels From the Realms of Glory** — James Montgomery, 1816;  
Music: REGENT SQUARE by Henry Smart, 1867

Angels from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth  
Ye who sang creation's story  
Now proclaim Messiah - ah's birth:

Come and worship, come and worship  
Worship Christ, the new - born King!

Shepherds in the fields abiding,  
Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with man is now residing;  
Yonder shines the infant light!

Sages, leave your contemplations,  
Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations,  
Ye have seen His natal star:

Sinners, wrung with true repentance,  
Doomed for guilt to endless pains,  
Justice now revokes the sentence,  
Mercy calls you – break your chains:

Though an infant now we view Him,  
He shall fill His Father's throne!  
Gather all the nations to Him;  
Every knee shall then bow down:

All creation, join in praising  
God the Father, Spirit, Son;  
Evermore your voices raising  
To th'eternal Three in One:

## GOD AT WORK

Celebrating God at work through the Angel Tree Project.

## BENEDICTION

This Christmas season,  
May the God of hope fill you with all  
Joy and peace as you trust in him.  
–Romans 15:13a

<sup>All</sup> **Amen**

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*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.*

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# Announcements

**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

**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](mailto: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](http://crosssound.org). Space is limited, so don't delay! (would make a great Christmas gift!)  
Questions? [kerri@crosssound.org](mailto: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.

Thank you for responding with generosity and enthusiasm to our first ever Prison Fellowship Angel Tree Project! 112 gifts were provided by our congregation for children on behalf of parents who are in prison. Dede Knapp graciously administrated this project, organizing many people and a mountain of presents to be delivered in time for Christmas. Thank you, Dede, Craig, Josie, Chase, Sadie and baby Jude for devoting yourselves to this ministry...how beautiful to see the hope and comfort brought to so many families through your efforts!

# Hope & Healing

Our relationship with our sister Church in Matanzas, Cuba continues to grow. Their vision is built around planting house churches across the city. They initially divided the city into three zones, establishing a pastor and house church for that zone. They then trained bivocational pastors as missionary pastors to continue to plant additional house church communities in these zone. New communities are coming together with a desire to serve God and love their neighbors.

This year a fourth zone has been opened and a husband/wife pastoral team has joined the team to serve the community and continue to plant home based church communities. Cross Sound Church was able to help them as a denomination purchase a house that will serve as a base from which to continue this work in this new zon. Thank you for your support of this work. The church is thriving in Cuba.

Specific prayer requests include wisdom, strength and cohesion for the leadership and their ministry. Please pray for marriages in Cuba. Our sister church is very committed to bringing teaching to couples on building and sustaining strong, healthy relationships.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:lauraoc@crosssound.org), Katie Fixter, [katie@crosssound.org](mailto:katie@crosssound.org), or Kate Pippingier, [katepippingier@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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): \_\_\_\_\_

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Prayer Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

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*If you have prayer requests or prayers of thanksgiving that you would like to share please email [Penny@crosssound.org](mailto: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: