



We are born into  
the world looking for  
someone looking for  
us, and we remain in  
this mode of searching  
for the rest of our lives.

—

Curt Thompson,  
The Soul of Shame

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 8, 2024

Order of Worship

[www.CrossSound.org](http://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](mailto:dave@crosssound.org) (206) 334-5205  
and Dave O'Connell: [daveoc@crosssound.org](mailto:daveoc@crosssound.org) (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](http://crosssound.org) call our office: (206) 842-6898 or email [info@crosssound.org](mailto:info@crosssound.org)

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

# Gathering

CALL TO WORSHIP — Psalm 50:1-3, 6

The mighty God summons the earth  
from the rising of the sun to the place where it sets.  
Our God comes and will not be silent.  
God calls, and we respond to his love.  
The heavens declare God's righteousness.  
We tell out God's glories!  
Offer up to God your thanksgiving.  
And our God will hear us, save us, and stay with us forever.

# 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.*

Lord,  
**you who feel compassion for the weak and needy.**  
**We confess that our hearts are neither strong enough**  
**nor courageous enough this day.**  
**And we ask that you would carry us**  
**in this time of waiting,**  
**so that we would know that we're not alone**  
**but rather in the strong, gentle hands of our Good Shepherd.**  
**We pray this in the name of Jesus,**  
**the One who leaves the ninety-nine**  
**in order to find the one. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND RECEIVING OF GRACE — Isaiah 1:18

Come now, let us argue it out,  
says the LORD:  
though your sins are like scarlet,  
they shall be like snow;  
though they are red like crimson,  
they shall become like wool.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING — Isaiah 9:2-3, 6-7a

2nd candle – (purple) The Bethlehem Candle or the Candle of Preparation:

The people who walked in darkness  
    have seen a great light;  
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,  
    on them has light shone.  
You have multiplied the nation;  
    you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
    as with joy at the harvest,  
    as they are glad when they divide the spoil.  
For to us a child is born,  
    to us a son is given;  
    and the government shall be upon his shoulder,  
    and his name shall be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
    Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
Of the increase of his government and of peace  
    there will be no end.

**Come Thou Long Expected Nation** — arranged by Red Mountain Church

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 everlasting 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.

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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.

**O Little Town of Bethlehem** — arranged by Elevation Worship, Jonsal Barrientes

O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see the lie;  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy 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 given!  
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of His heaven.  
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.

**What Child Is This?** — arranged by Anthem Lights, Morgan Ranney

What Child is this Who, laid to rest, On Mary's lap is sleeping  
Whom angels greet, with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?

*This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Mary*

Why lies He in such mean estate, Where ox and ass are feeding  
Good Christian, fear; For sinners, here the silent Word is pleading.

*Nails, spear Shall pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The Babe, the Son of Mary*

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh, Come peasant, king to own Him  
The King of Kings, Salvation brings, Let loving hearts enthrone Him

*Raise, raise a song on high, The virgin sings her lullaby  
Joy, joy for Christ is born, The Babe, the Son of Mary*

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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.

ENSENADA MEXICO HIGHLIGHTS — YWAM (Homes of Hope)

ANNOUNCEMENTS, STUDENT DISMISSAL & GREETING

*Please stand and introduce yourself to one another.*

Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you.— Romans 15:7

Love one another deeply from the heart.—1Peter 1:22

QUOTES:

"Advent is a season of waiting, but our whole lives are a season of waiting—  
waiting to see the face of God." – Ann Voscamp

“We cannot embrace true hope without also acknowledging the pain and  
sinfulness of the world and of our own lives. Hope is the comfort of the poor and  
the needy. It is not a trite bliss formed through our own effort, wealth, or success.  
– Tish Harrison Warren, Advent: The Season of Hope

Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem. May we be drawn by the light of God  
made man. – Pope Francis

The Advent Season is a season of waiting, but our whole life is an Advent season,  
that is, a season of waiting for the last Advent, for the time when there will be a  
new heaven and a new earth. – Dietrich Bonhoeffer

MESSAGE SERIES: SONGS OF CHRISTMAS

**Text: Isaiah 65:17-23**

**Title: "Oh Come, Oh Come Emmanuel"**

**Speaker: Dave Sellers**

"For behold, I create new heavens  
and a new earth,  
and the former things shall not be remembered  
or come into mind.  
But be glad and rejoice forever  
in that which I create;  
for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy,  
and her people to be a gladness.  
I will rejoice in Jerusalem  
and be glad in my people;  
no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping  
and the cry of distress.  
No more shall there be in it  
an infant who lives but a few days,  
or an old man who does not fill out his days,  
for the young man shall die a hundred years old,  
and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed.  
They shall build houses and inhabit them;  
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.  
They shall not build and another inhabit;  
they shall not plant and another eat;  
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,  
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.  
They shall not labor in vain  
or bear children for calamity,  
for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the LORD,  
and their descendants with them.

**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel** — Sovereign Grace Music

O come, O come, Emmanuel  
and ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem,  
from every foe deliver them  
That trust your mighty power to save;  
bring them in vict'ry through the grave

Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, our Dayspring, come and cheer  
our spirits by Thy advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadows put to flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Desire of nations, bind  
all people in one heart and mind;  
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,  
and be Thyself our King of Peace!

Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Rejoice! Rejoice!  
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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](http://www.crosssound.org/give) • Stock: contact [bookkeeper@crosssound.org](mailto:bookkeeper@crosssound.org)
- Mail: Cross Sound Church PO Box 11748 or 600 Ericksen Ave NE #210, Bainbridge Is., WA 98110



God, you sent Him into this world  
to satisfy the longings of your people for a Savior,  
to bring freedom to the captives of sin,  
and to establish justice for the oppressed.  
You came among us as one of us,  
becoming poor,  
sharing in the suffering of the world.  
We celebrate that in you death and rising again,  
you set before us the sure promise of new life,  
the certain hope of heaven coming down to earth  
where we will sit at the table with the nations and with Christ, our host.

#### 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

**Hark the Herald Angels Sing** — arranged by Amy Grant

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

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

Christ by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord:  
Late in time, behold Him come, Offspring of the Virgin’s womb!  
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Pleased as man with men to dwell: Jesus, our Emmanuel!  
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BENEDICTION — from A Brief Statement of Faith

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Holy Spirit,  
let us aim to serve Jesus throughout the day  
and to pursue holy and joyful lives,  
even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth,  
praying: Come, Lord Jesus!  
**Amen.**

# Announcements

**Last Week of Angel Tree Christmas Gifting!** Provide a tangible gift of God's love this Christmas – participate in our Angel Tree program, supporting local kids and families! We still have a handful of gifts that need to be provided.

- Select a gift tag in the lobby or email [dede.knapp@hotmail.com](mailto:dede.knapp@hotmail.com) for a gift request
- December 15th – deadline to drop off all wrapped gifts to church office (preferred) or church service.

*Please email [dede.knapp@hotmail.com](mailto:dede.knapp@hotmail.com) with any questions or if you are able to help deliver gifts. We are looking for delivery teams available anytime December 19-23!*

**Dec 14: Men's Breakfast** Men are invited to come together on the Second Saturday of the month, 8am at the CS Office (600 Ericksen Ave NE, suite 210)

**Dec 15: The Annual Nativity Play** will be performed during church on Sunday December 15 at 10am. Interested in being a part of the performance? There is still room in the angel choir (no practice necessary)! Reach out to reach out to Brooke Wellman, CS Kids Co-Lead, at (425) 647-8542.

- REHEARSAL CONTINUES THIS SUNDAY AFTER CHURCH

**Dec 24: Christmas Eve Services** Come celebrate our Savior's birth with us!

- 4pm Family Service at the BI HS Theater
- 7pm Carols and Candlelight Service at the BI HS Theater

**Socks & Underwear, Socks and Underwear!** Cross Sound Youth is doing its annual Warm Winter Sock & Underwear Drive. We are looking to gather 240 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., B.I) in a bin outside the office door or at church. Thank you!

**The School of Discipleship is offering a new class for the New Year** titled: *Follow Me: Finding Your Purpose and Fulfilling Your Callings in Christ*. One of the questions you may ponder is, "How am I created to make a difference in the world for Jesus?" Join us Sunday evenings, January 12th thru February 2nd, at the Church Office (600 Ericksen NE). Dinner and childcare provided. Please RSVP to [katiepearson@crosssound.org](mailto:katiepearson@crosssound.org)

**Men's Ministry: Bible Study Fellowship Tuesdays at 6:30pm** at the Church office (600 Ericksen Ave NE #210). For centuries, people have attempted to unlock the mysteries of Revelation. In this, "The Study of Revelation: Discover Faith, Hope, and Joy", we are given hope of a world made new by the redemption and restoration that Jesus offers today and for eternity. Come try our study! Sign up at [www.joinbsf.org](http://www.joinbsf.org). Questions? Email Tony at [merritts.wa@gmail.com](mailto:merritts.wa@gmail.com).

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If you have any announcements that you would like included in the bulletin, please email Kristin@[crosssound.org](http://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: \_\_\_\_\_

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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.*