



God answers
the mess of life
with one word:
Grace.

—

Max Lucado

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 (206) 334-5205
and Dave O'Connell: 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 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

CALL TO WORSHIP — Psalm 113:1-4 (The Message)

Hallelujah!

You who serve God, praise God!

Just to speak his name is praise!

Just to remember God is a blessing—
now and tomorrow and always.

From east to west, from dawn to dusk,
keep lifting all your praises to God!

God is higher than anything and anyone,
outshining everything you can see in the skies.

Who can compare with our God?

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.

Heavenly Father,

In grace you have loved us.

In grace you have saved us.

In grace you have made us yours.

**And now we confess that we still daily need that same grace,
for all the ways that we turn away from you.**

**Forgive us again for our many shortcomings and sin, and
in the grace of your Son, renew and empower us to follow Him.**

We pray this in his beautiful and wonderful name, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND RECEIVING OF GRACE

There is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.... God himself has given us right standing with himself. Who then will condemn us? No one! For Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us.... Nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is ours in Christ Jesus our Lord. — Romans 8:1, 33-34, 39

Because of Jesus Christ, And in Jesus Christ,

You are Forgiven. You are His.

Rejoice! And be at Peace.

Amen.

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

Heart of Worship

When the music fades, All is stripped away
And I simply come, Longin' just to bring
Something that's of worth, That will bless Your heart

(Bridge) I'll bring You more than a song, For a song in itself,
Is not what You have required
You search much deeper within, Through the ways things appear,
You're looking into my heart

*I'm comin' back to the heart of worship
And it's all about You, It's all about You, Jesus
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it
When it's all about You, It's all about You, Jesus*

King of endless worth, No one could express
How much You deserve, Though I'm weak and poor
All I have is Yours, Every single breath

Bridge // Chorus x2

Cornerstone — Hillsong United

My hope is built on nothing less, Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly trust in Jesus' name

*Christ alone, Cornerstone, Weak made strong in the Savior's love
Through the storm, He is Lord, Lord of all*

When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale, My anchor holds within the veil,

Chorus

When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone, Faultless to stand before the throne

Chorus x2

On Christ the solid rock I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand, (repeat)

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.

The Lion and The Lamb

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

Open up the gate, 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?

Chorus

Who can stop the Lord Almighty, who can stop the Lord Almighty
Who can stop the Lord Almighty, who can stop the Lord?
Who can stop the Lord Almighty, who can stop the Lord Almighty
Who can stop the Lord Almighty, who can stop the Lord?

Chorus

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

With the exception of the nursery, all students begin in the worship service. Upon dismissal students may proceed to their individual classes: Nursery Rm 234, Preschool Rm 232, K-1st Rm 231, 2-4th Rm 229, 5-6th Rm 231.

Message

Title: Beginning a New Year – Follow Me

Text: Matthew 9:9-13

Speaker: Dave O'Connell

⁹ As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

¹⁰ While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

¹² On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. ¹³ But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

QUOTES:

"Following Jesus is not about diligently keeping a set of rules or conjuring up the moral fortitude to lead good lives. It's about loving God and enjoying Him."

— Francis Chan

When we come to Christ, we're no longer the most important person in the world to us; Christ is. Instead of living only for ourselves, we have a higher goal: to live for Jesus.— Billy Graham

No big shocker that following Jesus is costly. The best things in life always are.

— Louie Giglio

The demands of following Christ will cost you everything. But you gain far more than you give up. You give up dirt for diamonds.— Steve Lawson

You have a God who hears you, the power of love behind you, the Holy Spirit within you, and all of heaven ahead of you. If you have the Shepherd, you have grace for every sin, direction for every turn, a candle for every corner and an anchor for every storm. You have everything you need.— Max Lucado

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.

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").

The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve,
and to give his life as a ransom for many.

— Mark 10:35

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold
that you were redeemed..., but with the precious blood of Christ.

— 1Peter 1:17-18

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest."

— Matthew 11:28

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



Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others.

— t Timothy 6:17-18 (NLT)

Who You Say I Am— Hillsong

Who am I that the highest King
Would welcome me
I was lost but He brought me in
Oh His love for me
Oh His love for me

*Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God
Yes I am*

Free at last He has ransomed me
His grace runs deep
While I was a slave to sin
Jesus died for me
Yes He died for me

*Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God, yes I am
In my Father's house
There's a place for me
I'm a child of God, yes I am*

I am chosen / Not forsaken
I am who You say I am
You are for me / Not against me
I am who You say I am

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Heavenly Father,

Help our hearts to grasp that name... Father!
By grace, you have brought us into your kingdom.
In love, you have adopted us into your family.
Now in Jesus, use us to serve, love, and bless your world.
[Silent Prayer to praise and thank him for his adopting love]

For this, O Lord, we pray:
Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus,
We are so easily distracted.
We fill our lives and our hearts with so many thigs.
Help us to hear your royal and loving call.
This week, each morning and day, help us to follow you.
[Silent Prayer to ask him to help you to follow Him in particular areas of life]

For this, O Lord, we pray:
Lord, hear our prayer.

Holy Spirit,
Where there is darkness, bring the light of Jesus.
Where things are broken, bring healing in Jesus.
Where relationships are struggling, bring the power of Jesus.
Work in us and in our world. Surprise us with your goodness.
[Silent Prayer for your personal needs and for cares in the world]

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

Sending

I Will Follow—Chris Tomlin

*Where You go, I'll go, Where You stay, I'll stay,
When You move, I'll move, I will follow...*

All Your ways are good, All Your ways are sure, I will trust in You alone
Higher than my sight, High above my life, I will trust in You alone

*Where You go, I'll go, Where You stay, I'll stay,
When You move, I'll move, I will follow you
Who You love, I'll love, How You serve I'll serve,
If this life I lose, I will follow You... I will follow You*

Light unto the world, Light unto my life, I will live for You alone
You're the one I seek, Knowing I will find, All I need in You alone

Chorus

In You there's life everlasting, In You there's freedom for my soul,
In You there's joy, unending joy, and I will follow*

Chorus x2

I will follow You, I will follow You, I will follow You

BENEDICTION

May the blessing of God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Be upon you, both now and forevermore.
Amen.
Amen.

Announcements

Join the team! The Suquamish Kitchen takes place at the Suquamish United Church of Christ and is a free community dinner. Cross Sound commits to making and serving a meal every other month. Come join the fun as we cook and serve a meal to folks from North Kitsap and Bainbridge Island. There are plenty of things to do that require only a willing spirit! Cook, prep, serve, schmooz, wash dishes, clean up - all clearly defined jobs, so you know what you're getting into! Sign up here: www.crosssound.org/events

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

Women's Ministry: Bible Study will begin the week of January 13 at the Church Office on Monday Evenings at 6:30pm (soup and salad provided) and Wednesday Mornings at 9:30am. (childcare provided) We will be studying Jesus' Sermon on the Mount with the BEMA Podcast.

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. Questions? Email Tony at merritts.wa@gmail.com.

Missions, Traditions and Activities at Cross Sound So many ways to connect!

ONGOING	WINTER	SUMMER
Search + Rescue Mission	Advent Brunch	CS Kids Camp + Parties
Men's Bible Study + Bible Study Fellowship	Socks + Underwear Drive	Youth Summer Program
Women's Bible Study	Gift Bags for the Homeless	Youth Immersion Trip
Monthly Men's Breakfast	CS Kids Nativity Play	Book Club at the Park
Seasonal Men's Hangouts	Christmas Eve Services	Picnic With a Purpose
Small Group	SPRING	Women's Summer BBQ
Evening Youth Group	Women's IF: Gathering	FALL
School of Discipleship	Weeds to Flowers Project	Men's Retreat
Roundtable Discussions	Ash Wednesday Service	Women's Hike
	Maundy Thursday Service	Pies for First Responders
OVERSEAS	Good Friday Service	Ensenada Auction Dinner
Ensenada / Cuuba	Easter Service	Ensenada Homebuilding Trip
Kenya / Mexico City	Women's Retreat	Giving Thanks Service

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: _____

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.