

“[Christmas]  
means not just  
hope for the  
world, despite  
all its unending  
problems, but  
hope for you  
and me, despite  
all our unending  
failings.”

— Tim Keller



# 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**

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

## **The First Noel**

The First Noel, the angel did say,  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep  
On a cold winters night that was so deep.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel  
Born is the King of Is-rael!

They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the the East, beyond them far;  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night.

And by the light of that same star,  
Three wise men came from country far;  
To seek for a King was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went.

This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;  
And there it did both stop and stay  
Right over the place where Jesus lay.

Then entered in those wise men three,  
Full reverently upon their knee;  
And offered there in his presence,  
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense

The let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord  
That hath made Heaven and earth of nought  
And with His blood mankind has bought.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

“Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

— Malachi 3:1-4

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

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# 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).*

Lord Jesus,  
I am guilty, but pardoned,  
lost, but saved,  
wandering but found,  
sinning, but cleansed.

Grant me to hear your voice assuring me:  
that by your stripes I am healed,  
that you were bruised for my iniquities,  
that you have been made sin for me  
that I might be righteous in you,  
that my grievous sins, my manifold sins,  
are all forgiven,  
buried in the ocean of your concealing blood.  
**Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND RECEIVING OF GRACE

May almighty God,  
who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,  
bring you his pardon and peace, now and forever.  
Amen  
**Amen.**

## ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

*Pink candle – The Shepherd Candle or The Candle of Joy:*

*The shepherds received a message of joy!*

“...and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.’ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.’ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.’ —Luke 2:7-15

## **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

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! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

### **O Little Town of Bethlehem**

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.

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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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## **Hark, the Herald Angels Sing**

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

Hallelujah!  
I give thanks to GOD with everything I’ve got—  
Wherever people gather, and in the congregation.  
GOD’S works are so great, worth  
A lifetime of study—endless enjoyment!  
Splendor and beauty mark his craft;  
His generosity never gives out.  
— Psalm 111:1-3 (The Message)

## SERMON

**Series: Joy to the World**

**Text: Matthew 1:18-25**

**Title: The Grace of Christmas**

**Speaker: Dave Sellers**

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall call his name Immanuel”  
(which means, God with us). <sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup> but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

## QUOTES

“The gospel anticipates a world far different from C.S. Lewis’s Narnia, where it is ‘always winter, and never Christmas.’ The promise of the Gospel is that it is ‘always Christmas’. To be ‘in Christ’ is to enjoy each morning as a Christmas morning with the family of God, celebrating the gift of God around the tree of life.”  
—Kevin VanHoozer

Q. Why was it necessary for Christ, the Redeemer, to die?

A. Since death is the punishment for sin, Christ died willingly in our place to deliver us from the power and penalty of sin and bring us back to God. By his substitutionary atoning death, he alone redeems us from hell and gains for us forgiveness of sin, righteousness, and everlasting life.

—#24 The New City Catechism

## OFFERING

As God’s dear children, then, take him as your pattern,  
and follow Christ by loving as he loved you,  
giving himself up for us as an offering  
and a sweet-smelling sacrifice to God.

— Ephesians 5:1-2

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*The offering is a way for members and friends of Cross Sound Church to support the church’s mission and ministry. If you are our guest today, please feel no obligation to give.*

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## **What Child is This?**

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.

## COMMUNION

And now we give you thanks  
that our lives are woven into your story of forgiveness,  
given to us through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross,  
and made manifest in our participation at this table,  
which, through the mystery of your grace,  
brings the Kingdom of God closer to us day by day.  
And so we gladly thank you,  
with saints and angels praising you, and singing. . .

## **“O Holy Night”**

O Holy night, the stars are brightly shining  
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining  
'Til He appeared and the soul felt its worth  
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn

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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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# Sending

Fall on your knees  
O hear the angel voices  
O night divine!  
O night when Christ was born  
O night divine!  
O night, O night divine!

Truly He taught us to love one another,  
His law is love and His gospel is peace.  
Chains He shall break, for the slave is our brother.  
And in His name, all oppression shall cease  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we  
Let all within us praise His holy name

Christ is the Lord!  
O praise His name forever  
His Power and glory ever more proclaim

## **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?  
Say what may the 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 sign;  
Come adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King!

Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

## CELEBRATING

—Marit Krueger

## BENEDICTION

May God himself, the God of all redemption,  
strengthen you with his grace,  
and keep you secure in every adversity.  
as you await the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be among you, and remain with you always.

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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

## **Join us in a “Toast” to Celebrate Marit TONIGHT!**

Please join us at CSC@Ericksen this evening between 6-9PM. We will have appetizers and drinks as we celebrate and send Marit off!

**“Remember the prisoners...”**when you send out your Christmas cards! Pick up mailing information with an individual’s name at the upper and lower level Greeting Tables.

## **Annual Cross Sound 2017 Christmas Pageant Dec 17**

There are still MANY ways to be involved with this year’s CSC Christmas Pageant! Pageant is on Sun, Dec. 17, with a dress rehearsal on Sat, Dec. 16th 10-12 at the BHS Commons. Everyone is welcome. Contact Krista Schei at [krista.schei@gmail.com](mailto:krista.schei@gmail.com) to see how YOU can be involved.

## **5th-8th Christmas Party/Service Project Saturday, Dec. 16**

We need adult chaperones! If your willing to chaperone, please let us know. Join us as we make gift bags for the homeless and hand them out in Seattle. Afterward, we will have dinner and a white elephant gift exchange. Start Time/Place: 11:30 am at the Cross Sound Office  
Cost: \$10 for dinner and ferry fare. Bring: A sack lunch, a backpack, white elephant gift for the gift exchange and warm clothes to walk around Seattle in. End Time/Place: 6:00 pm at the Cross Sound Office

**Christmas Eve “Morning” and Christmas Eve “Eve”:** We will be having 2 services for Christmas Eve. The first will be at our regular service time of 10am and will be a family friendly service. The second will be a 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 ten to sixteen members. The groups meet weekly, bi-weekly or monthly in homes. The time together is split among Bible study, personal application and relationships. Please sign the clipboard or 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.

**THANKS-GIVING:** Special calendar year-end gifts have historically played an important part in meeting our budget needs for the church’s fiscal year (July 1 – June 30). Your extra giving between now and the end of the year will be greatly appreciated and crucial as we work to reduce our budget deficit. Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness!

**Thank you for your wreath orders!** Your generosity raised \$1,700 for the Ensenada Housebuilding Trip.

# CS Kids and Youth Group

**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.

**Little Kids (3–5yrs)** Room #232

Lead Teacher: Deby Berkimer.

Children will attend the worship portion of the service and then be sent to their classrooms as a whole Sunday school group.

**Cross Sound Kids:**

Children will attend the worship portion of the service and then be sent to their classrooms as a whole Sunday school group.

**Kindergarten** Room #231

Lead teachers: Jeanne Bastiani, Katie Fixter, Leeanna Glasby, Emma Sellers, Kareese Pippinger, Alatheia Pippinger, and Keagan Daniels.

**First & Second grades** Room #229

Lead teachers; Carrie Byer, Dinha Moore, Candace Luckman, Beth Johnston, and Kathi Jenness.

**Third & Fourth grades** Room #225

Lead teachers; Patrick & Jenny Kilby, Knox Duncan, and Carol Rainey,

**Fifth & Sixth grades** Room #222

Lead teachers; Carrie Sellers, Cheryl Keech & Mark Harrison, and Bill Parrot.

Contact Katie Fixter, [kfixter5@gmail.com](mailto:kfixter5@gmail.com) with any questions and for ways to be involved with Cross Sound Church Children’s Ministry  
YOUTH GROUP

**Junior High**, Bainbridge High School Library

Lead Teachers; Lisa Bernardin, John Daniels, and Sean Luckman

**Senior High**, Bainbridge High School Library

Lead Teachers; Jamie Brouwer, Lacey Redinger, and Kerry Sutorius  
WEDNESDAYS 6:30–8:30pm – H.S. CSC Youth Group at the Brouwer’s home: 8874 Battle Point Dr. NE. Bainbridge Island.

THURSDAYS 6:30–8:00pm – Jr. High CSC Youth Group at the Cross Sound Office: 600 Ericksen Ave. NE #210.

Contact Josh Brouwer at [josh@crosssound.org](mailto:josh@crosssound.org) with any questions or to be involved.

## Connect With Us

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

*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.*  
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NOTES: