

OPPORTUNITY PROFILE

Senior Pastor

King of Glory Lutheran Church

Tempe, Arizona



KING OF GLORY
A LUTHERAN COMMUNITY

Presented by:

SIMA Partners

Rick Heltne, Partner and Senior Search Consultant -

THE CONTEXT

The Church

King of Glory is a Lutheran Community located in Tempe, Arizona, home of Arizona State University. Founded in 1970, our 600-member congregation has a strong history and spirit of deeply caring and being present for one another and the broader community. Our aim is to manifest the love and Lordship of Jesus Christ as a congregation and in our individual daily lives. Our church's ministries reflect our commitment to this mission. We seek to:

- Provide services of worship at which the word of God is preached.
- Provide the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion.
- Witness to the reconciling Word of God in Christ by welcoming all people.
- Respond to human need, work for justice and peace, and care for the sick and suffering.
- Challenge, equip and support all members in carrying out their calling in their daily lives and in this congregation.
- Motivate its members to provide financial support for this congregation's ministries.
- Encourage ecumenical relationships with other congregations and ministries in our community.

As a congregation, King of Glory extends a wide, welcoming and inclusive presence. It is vitally important to our church that we foster and are seen as a community that extends the generous love of Christ. Currently affiliated with Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC), King of Glory is welcoming to all, regardless of race, culture, economic status, sexual orientation or social position.



Like many congregations, King of Glory faced the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic, which for a time necessitated a moratorium on in-person church attendance. We resolved to meet these challenges by conducting many of our ministries, including weekly worship services, online. Through video conferencing, telephone visits and weekly email updates, we maintained a strong schedule of ministry opportunities and a hopeful presence in each other's lives.

Post-pandemic, King of Glory is endeavoring to meet the challenge of how to "be the church" amid a changing and changed culture. Hope abounds here because of the presence of faith-filled people who have dedicated their lives to being lights in our world.

We are committed to building upon and strengthening our vision and exploring new ways of acting out that vision as a church.

Current strengths include:

- Worship on Sundays at 8:00/10:30 that has traditional elements, but is versatile in a variety of creative expressions of faith through strong preaching, music, drama, prayer, and communion
- A quality and recently remodeled campus/facility
- A strong and talented staff (Associate Pastor, Music Director, Youth Pastor, Children and Family Ministries Director, and a dedicated support staff)
- Small but vibrant and growing ministries with children and youth. **This is a crucial area of focus to our church going forward.**
 - Weekly Christian education programs for children and youth (Sundays) and weekly Bible studies for youth (Wednesdays)
 - Plentiful opportunities for children and youth to gather throughout the week to grow their faith and socialize with their peers
 - Large events/retreats throughout the year
 - Opportunities for youth to serve the community
- A flourishing Pre-school
- Adult Education, small group Bible studies and fellowship opportunities
- Strong history of volunteerism and community outreach (Paz de Cristo, I-HELP, Social Justice Task Force, Habitat for Humanity)
- Pastoral care that is supported by a dedicated team of Stephen Ministers
- Prayer ministry
- Outstanding Music programs for all ages: Choristers & Chimes (grades 2-6), Youth Choir (grades 7-12), Sanctuary Choir, Glory Ringers, Joy Ringers, Guitar Ensemble, variety of vocal and instrumental solo and ensemble opportunities

King of Glory is currently being served by an Interim Senior Pastor who is working with leadership and staff to re-affirm and extend our congregation's vision, goals and ministries during this time of change and transition, in preparation for the next leader who will be called by God to serve our church.

THE NEED, THE OPPORTUNITY AND THE ROLE

It is into this context that King of Glory is seeking to call its next Senior Pastor. Our congregation embraces their core identity as a warm and welcoming community of faith. We believe this can serve as a catalyst for new expressions of our mission as a church to share Christ's love.



The right fit person will be an energized, enthusiastic and faith-filled leader who can engage with us and our existing church staff as we seek new directions and means of accomplishing our vision. While valuing traditional Lutheran theology, they will bring creativity and versatility, new ideas and fresh strategies. The ideal candidate will be motivated to extend themselves in relationship to the people of King of Glory and into the local community, manifesting a vibrant visibility in the neighborhood and beyond.

Of crucial importance, the candidate must be eager and able to relate to a multigenerational community and be excited about programs for our children and youth. The candidate must be firmly committed to working with our youth pastor and families to develop innovative, inspiring programs that will help us continue to grow our children and youth demographics, and thereby bring new members to faith in Christ.



The person called to King of Glory will most of all be an engaging and biblically centered preacher and effective communicator, while also competent as an administrator/manager.

Finally, the person called to King of Glory must be able to understand and embrace the unique culture of the desert, and specifically Tempe.

According to congregation members, the next Senior Pastor of King of Glory is the one who...



“Loves and believes in us and helps us to love and believe in ourselves. We want to make a difference.”

“Brings people together as the body of Christ, hands, feet, eyes, ears, loving each other and working together to love our world.”

“Is a shepherd that encourages us to courageously step out and find new ways to share God’s love in a changing time.”

QUALIFICATIONS

The ideal candidate will possess the following minimum qualifications:

- Master of Divinity from an accredited seminary/divinity school
- Ordained Lutheran Clergy and theologically aligned with King of Glory
- 5 or more years of measurable success and experience in pastoral ministry leadership:
 - Demonstrated track record of innovation and sustainable growth
 - Experience supervising, discipling and encouraging staff and volunteers
 - Competency in organizational administration and fiscal management
 - Experience in worship planning and leadership
 - Proficient/adept (or undaunted) with IT/technology/social media

INQUIRY PROCESS

To apply for the position, please contact Rick Heltne of SIMA Partners via email (rheltne@simapartners.com) and include:

- A current resume/CV outlining your experience and relevant qualifications.
- Preaching and Teaching sample videos

In addition, please also provide succinct responses to the following:

- Comment on the ways in which you are personally aligned with the mission, values and theological perspectives of King of Glory Lutheran Church.
- Describe your Christian faith journey and practice of spiritual disciplines.
- Briefly outline your experience in leading ministries within a congregational setting, as well as oversight of staff and volunteers.
- Briefly articulate your understanding the role of the church in the current cultural milieu.
- Describe what is most motivating or compelling to you about the position.