

*Entering
the Feast
in the
Kingdom
of God*

Luke 13:22-30

Pentecost 14
Sunday, September 15, 2019
Full Script



Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School

623-224-8839

www.crossofglory.org

Rev. John Ehlers, Pastor

Rev. Benjamin Foxen, Pastor



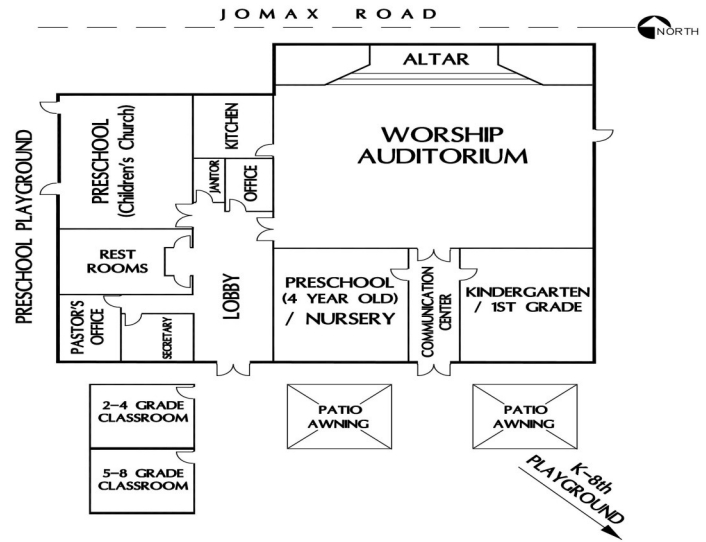
Jomax Campus
10111 W Jomax Road,
Peoria, AZ 85383
Sat. 6pm and Sun. 9am Worship

Vistancia Campus
Lake Pleasant Elementary School
31501 N. Westland Road
Peoria, AZ 85383
Sun. 9:30am Worship

Welcome to our Worship Center! God defines a church as people gathering around Word and Sacrament. As you join us in this gathering, we pray that Jesus' peace and power will fill you.

Families with children:

- Restrooms with changing tables located in lobby .
- Nursery for toddlers 2 years and younger accompanied by adult guardian.
- We invite children (*ages 3 to 4th grade*) to take part in our “**Children in Church**” program. Worship is a family affair, something that children best learn from their parents. So, for the beginning and end of the service, we encourage parents to guide their children through the service. At the indicated time, children can come forward to hear a special



children's message at the feet of the pastor. If parents wish, the children can then sit in the area set up for them at the front-right section of the worship hall, where they will find age-appropriate and spiritually focused activities to work on during the regular sermon. At the time of the offering, children return to sit with their parents. Let's work together to bring up the next generation in the Word of the Lord!

Special needs:

- Large print bulletin available from usher
- Seats with armrests available



The way to heaven is narrow. Mere outward attachment to the family of God is not sufficient—only through faith in Christ can we enter heaven. The door is narrow and Christ commands us to make every effort to enter it, so the Church prays, “that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command.” Although the door is narrow, it is open to all, and the saints will come from all nations to behold the glory of the Lord.

Acknowledgements Scripture taken from **THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®, NIV®** Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by **Biblica, Inc.®** Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Worship and Hymns sourced from Christian Worship (CW) © 1993 and/or Christian Worship Supplement (CWS) © 2008 by Northwestern Publishing House (NPH). All rights reserved. These and all other sources are used by permission under One License.net License # A-711716 and/or CCLI License # 1852086 and # CSPL136078 (Video).

Service of the Word and Lord's Supper

OPENING HYMN

By Grace I'm Saved (CW384) 3 Vs.

By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless; My soul, believe and doubt it not.

Why waver at this word of promise? Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?

So then this word must true remain: By grace you, too, shall heav'n obtain.

By grace God's Son, our only Savior, Came down to earth to bear our sin.

Was it because of your own merit That Jesus died, your soul to win?

No, it was grace, and grace alone, That brought him from his heav'nly throne.

By grace! On this I'll rest when dying; In Jesus' promise I rejoice.

For though I know my heart's condition, I also know my Savior's voice.

My heart is glad; all grief has flown Since I am saved by grace alone.

GREETING

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Grace and peace to you from God our Father, and his Son, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

(Spoken Responsively)

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love.

Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child.

May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

(Sung by Congregation)

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Congregation Sings:

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him.

Your Word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens, your faithfulness continues forever. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 66:18-24

And I, because of what they have planned and done, am about to come and gather the people of all nations and languages, and they will come and see my glory. ¹⁹“I will set a sign among them, and I will send some of those who survive to the nations—to Tarshish, to the Libyans and Lydians (famous as archers), to Tubal and Greece, and to the distant islands that have not heard of my fame or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory among the nations. ²⁰And they will bring all your people, from all the nations, to my holy mountain in Jerusalem as an offering to the LORD—on horses, in chariots and wagons, and on mules and camels,” says the LORD. “They will bring them, as the Israelites bring their grain offerings, to the temple of the LORD in ceremonially clean vessels. ²¹And I will select some of them also to be priests and Levites,” says the LORD. ²²“As the new heavens and the new earth that I make will endure before me,” declares the LORD, “so will your name and descendants endure.²³ From one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath to another, all mankind will come and bow down before me,” says the LORD. ²⁴“And they will go out and look on the dead bodies of those who rebelled against me; the worms that eat them will not die, the fire that burns them will not be quenched, and they will be loathsome to all mankind.”

PSALM 72

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Endow the king with your justice, O God,

C: The royal son with your righteousness.

M: He will defend the afflicted among the people

C: And save the children of the needy;

M: He will endure as long as the sun,

C: As long as the moon, through all generations.

M: He will be like rain falling on a mown field,

C: Like showers watering the earth.

M: All kings will bow down to him

C: And all nations will serve him.

M: All nations will be blessed through him,

C: And they will call him blessed.

M: Praise be to the LORD God, the God of Israel, who alone does marvelous deeds,

C: May the whole earth be filled with his glory.

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

(All children are invited to sit in front with Pastor)

SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 12:18-24

You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; ¹⁹ to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, ²⁰ because they could not bear what was commanded: "If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death." ²¹ The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, "I am trembling with fear." ²² But you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, ²³ to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

VERSE OF THE DAY

(Spoken by Minister, Response sung by Congregation)

M: Alleluia. Jesus Christ has destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Alleluia. *(1 Timothy 1:10b)*

Congregation Sings:

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Faith comes from hearing the message,
and the message is heard through the Word of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

SERMON HYMN

In Christ There is No East or West (CW539) 5 Vs.

**In Christ there is no east or west, In him no south or north,
But one great fellowship of love Throughout the whole wide earth.**

**With God there is no tribe or race; In him we all are one.
He loves us as his children through Our faith in his dear Son.**

**So, brothers, sisters, praise his name Who died to set us free
From sin, division, hate, and blame, From spite and enmity!**

**Join hands, disciples of the faith, Whate'er your race may be;
Who serves my Father as his child Is surely kin to me.**

**In Christ now meet both east and west; In him meet south and north.
All Christly souls are one in him Throughout the whole wide earth.**

SERMON

Entering the Feast in the Kingdom of God

Luke 13:22-30

Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. ²³ Someone asked him, "Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?" He said to them, ²⁴ "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to

enter and will not be able to. ²⁵ Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, ‘Sir, open the door for us.’ ‘But he will answer, ‘I don’t know you or where you come from.’ ²⁶ “Then you will say, ‘We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.’ ²⁷ “But he will reply, ‘I don’t know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!’ ²⁸ “There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. ²⁹ People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. ³⁰ Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last.”

CD recordings sermons freely supplied for study or sharing. Please request on the Friendship Card

NICENE CREED

(Spoken in Unison)

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

SONG OF THE SEASON

The Lord is my Salvation 5 Vs.
Choir sings Vs. 1 & 2

*The grace of God has reached for me And pulled me from the raging sea
And I am safe on this solid ground The Lord is my salvation.*

*I will not fear when darkness falls His strength will help me scale these walls
I'll see the dawn of the rising sun The Lord is my salvation .*

Refrain:

**Who is like the Lord our God? Strong to save, faithful in love
My debt is paid and the vict'ry won The Lord is my salvation.**

**My hope is hidden in the Lord He flow'rs each promise of His Word
When winter fades I know spring will come The Lord is my salvation.**

**In times of waiting, times of need When I know loss, when I am weak
I know His grace will renew these days The Lord is my salvation [Refrain]**

**And when I reach my final day He will not leave me in the grave
But I will rise, He will call me home The Lord is my salvation. [Refrain]**

THE OFFERING AND OFFERING PRAYER

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH AND LORD'S PRAYER

(Spoken by Minister)

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

THE SALUTATION

(Spoken Responsively)

M: I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another,

C: So that there may be no divisions among you, and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought. (1 Cor. 1:10)

M: Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ?

C: And is not the bread that we break, a participation in the body of Christ?

M: Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body:

C: For we all partake of the one loaf. (1 Cor 10:16-17)

M: Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord.

C: A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. (1 Cor 11:26-28)

COMMUNION CANTICLE

(Sung by Congregation)

**Just as I am, without one plea But that thy blood was shed for me
And that thou bidd'st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come I come.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (Spoken by Minister) AND RESPONSE

(Sung by Congregation)

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given

thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me. ~

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Congregation Sings:

**What is this bread? Christ's body risen from the dead:
This bread we break, This life we take,
Was crushed to pay for our release. O taste and see the Lord is peace.**

**What is this wine? The blood of Jesus shed for mine;
The cup of grace Brings His embrace
Of life and love until I sing! O taste and see the Lord is King.**

**Is this for me? I am forgiven and set free! I do believe That I receive
His very body and His blood. O taste and see the Lord is good.**

DISTRIBUTION OF SACRAMENT

(Please refer to "Worship Welcome" in chair pocket)

*We follow the Scriptural practice of **CLOSE COMMUNION**. If you have not communed here prior to today, you should speak with our pastor before the service. We would like to help you establish the unity which comes from a common confession of faith (1 Corinthians 10:17) before expressing that union together at the Lord's Table. It is not our intent to judge hearts, but to remain faithful to the truth of God's Word. Those who have established that connection as members of sister WELS or ELS congregations may register at sanctuary entrance podium. Thank you for honoring our practice.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

I Walk in Danger All the Way (CW431)

**I walk in danger all the way; The thought shall never leave me
That Satan, who has marked his prey, Is plotting to deceive me.
This foe with hidden snares May seize me unawares
If e'er I fail to watch and pray; I walk in danger all the way.**

**I pass through trials all the way, With sin and ills contending;
In patience I must bear each day The cross of God's own sending.
Oft in adversity I know not where to flee
When storms of woe my soul dismay; I pass through trials all the way.**

**Grim death pursues me all the way; Nowhere I rest securely.
He comes by night, he comes by day, And takes his prey most surely.
A failing breath, and I In death's strong grasp may lie
To face eternity today. Grim death pursues me all the way.**

I walk with angels all the way; They shield me and befriend me.
All Satan's pow'r is held at bay When heav'nly hosts attend me.
They are my sure defense; All fear and sorrow, hence!
Unharm'd by foes, do what they may, I walk with angels all the way.

I walk with Jesus all the way; His guidance never fails me.
He takes my ev'ry fear away When Satan's pow'r assails me,
And, by his footsteps led, My path I safely tread.
In spite of ills that threaten may, I walk with Jesus all the way.

My walk is heav'nward all the way; Await, my soul, the morrow,
When you farewell can gladly say To all your sin and sorrow.
All worldly pomp, begone! To heav'n I now press on.
For all the world I would not stay; My walk is heav'nward all the way.

SONG OF SIMEON

(Sung by Congregation)

In peace, Lord, in peace, you let your servant now depart according to your word,
For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared for ev'ry people, a
light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel. In peace, in peace.

CLOSING PRAYER

(Spoken by Minister)

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to
share our humanity. We thank you that through Him you have given us pardon and peace in
this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but rule our hearts and minds by
your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with
gladness. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be
gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Jerusalem the Golden *CW728*) 2 Vs.

Jerusalem the golden, With milk and honey blest—
The sight of it refreshes The weary and oppressed:
I know not, oh, I know not What joys await us there,
What radiancy of glory, What bliss beyond compare:
To sing the hymn unending With all the martyr throng,
Amidst the halls of Zion Resounding full with song.

The Christ is ever with them; The daylight is serene.
The pastures of the blessed Are ever rich and green.
There is the throne of David; And there from care released,
The shout of them that triumph, The song of them that feast.
To God enthroned in glory The Church's voices blend,
The Lamb forever blessed, The Light that knows no end.

GIRLS IN AND AROUND THE CROSS OF GLORY
KINGDOM AND THEIR DADS ARE INVITED TO

A Royal Ball

September 20th - 6:30pm
Cross of Glory - 10111 W Jomax Rd
Food - Games - Crafts - Dancing - Photo Booth

Announcements

**** **Men's Retreat Update!!!** If you are interested in going to the Men's Retreat October 11th-13th at UCYC Prescott its not too late to register. The deadline for registration is September 30th and the fee to attend is \$150 because there was a grant to offset the cost. If you have already paid the initial \$50 deposit via check or online through Vanco the remaining balance is \$100. Check payments are made to Cross of Glory and placed in offering plate and online payments are made through Vanco on our website under the giving tab and then give an offering online button. Please reference Men's Retreat on both methods of payment.

****A huge thank you to all the people who have done so much to help beautify our grounds and keep our building in good order! We had people here pulling weeds, trimming trees, assembling the gaga pit, replacing lights, installing door handles, and much more. We couldn't keep our church and school functioning as they do without the help of our precious volunteers. Thanks be to God for you!

****Deer Valley Lutheran will be celebrating their 40th Anniversary on Sunday September 29th, 2019 by having a special service at 4 pm followed by fellowship with cake and coffee. You are invited to join them for this milestone. Address is 220 W Union Hills Dr. Phoenix Az 85027.

****WARNING SCAM ALERT.....It has come to our attention that there is an organization that has managed to get some WELS churches' contact information and is asking for donations via text messages. Cross of Glory does not solicit donations via text at this time. Methods currently used for giving are Sunday offerings, mailed donations or online donations through Vanco on our website. To our knowledge Cross of Glory has not been compromised at this time, but we wanted to put the warning out there. If you see a text supposedly from Cross of Glory asking for donations, ignore it!

****It's Thrivent Shirt season in the Church office. If you are helping out in events throughout the year there is one for you in the office. Just swing by and pick one up. There are plenty if we runout just let us know the size and we will get one on the next action team.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

For members and friends with noteworthy blessings, difficulties or health issues. Today we especially remember in our prayers and ask God to give strength, comfort and courage

Clara Naber, suffering from severe gallbladder infection.

Charles Klar, a friend of Jim & Cristy Meringer was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML). He is undergoing the bone marrow transfusion. Please keep him in your prayers as he goes through this process.

April Johnson, keep her in your prayers as she recovers at home.

Gerry Ehlers, the brother of Pastor Ehlers, diagnosed with stage 4 cancer.

MILITARY

Major JD Larson,
*son of John & Chi Larson,
based at Kirkland AFB in New Mexico.*

Sara (Dan) McArdle,
*daughter of Martha (Scott) Wofford,
Air Force Pilot, based in Little Rock, Arkansas.*

Sgt. Blake Andrew Nelsen,
*son of Rick & Karyn Nelsen and
brother of Seri & Lilli, USMC.*

Ben Weyer, serving in the military. Please pray that our Heavenly Father keeps him safe in his journey.

ONE CHURCH...TWO LOCATIONS

JOMAX CAMPUS - NEWS

VISTANCIA CAMPUS - NEWS

Father/Daughter Dance

Friday, September 20th
6:30 pm

Men's Retreat

Friday, October 11th-13th



5k Community Run

Saturday, September 28th

Men's Retreat

Friday, October 11th-13th

PERSONAL PRAYERS FOR COMMUNION

Before Communing

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

After Communing

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.



Cross of Glory was planted by the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) in March 1998 so that with the Gospel of Jesus she can strengthen the faith of her members and reach out into the community with the free gift of salvation. First worship services began at Easter 1999; the dedication of our Ministry Center at Easter, 2005. On Easter of 2017, we began services at our second site in the Vistancia community. Our synod's name reflects that her founders began in the state of Wisconsin. As a WELS church we still hold to the teachings of the Bible restored in the Reformation era. We are...

- a Christ-preaching church. We preach that Jesus is true God, the Son of God who became man, so that through his perfect life and innocent death, He is the prophesied "Lamb of God" who has taken away the sin of the world.
- a Bible-believing church. We teach that the Bible is the verbally inspired, inerrant Word of God, the only authority for Christian faith and life. We aim to teach God's Word in all its truth and simplicity.
- an evangelical church. We trust the Bible's claim that God saves people through the power of the Gospel in the Word and Sacraments. The Gospel is the Good News (the Evangel) about Jesus' saving work. The WELS has congregations throughout the USA and around the world to share the Evangel, the Bible's primary message, with all people.
- a people-caring church. That we're all sinners equally saved by Jesus' substitutionary work strips away human judgments and egos. This truth also empowers us to live Jesus' love for all people by offering friendship, support, and Biblical counseling. Our church family cares about other people-- including you.

Our Preschool & Elementary School exists to help parents in their God-given duty of teaching the Faith to their children: an important aspect of our Church's plan to grow a comprehensive womb-to tomb ministry that serves souls for eternity.