



# The Prodigal Son

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*It's Good to  
be Home*

*Pentecost 5*  
*Sunday, July 14, 2019*  
**FULL SCRIPT**



## **Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School**

623-224-8839

[www.crossofglory.org](http://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**

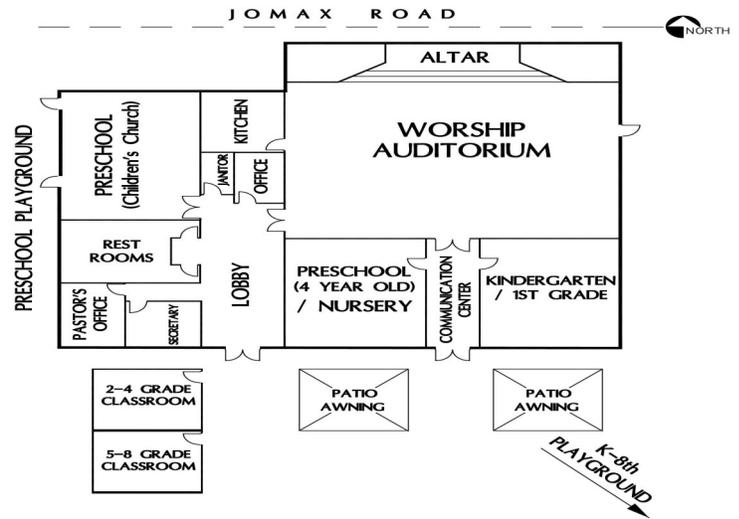
**Welcome to our Worship Center!** God defines a church as people gathering around Word and Sacrament. As you join us in this gathering, we pray that Jesus' peace and power will fill you.

**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 4<sup>th</sup> 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



**Worship  
focus**

The parable of the "prodigal son" forms the basis for our 6 week sermon series. In this story Jesus is teaching us about God's love for us and his willingness to forgive us no matter what we have done. The word prodigal means "wasteful"--particularly with regard to money. It comes from Latin roots that mean "forth" (*pro-*) and "to drive" (*agere*). It indicates the quality of a person who drives forth his money--who wastes it by spending with reckless abandon.

There is much for us to learn in this story. Each week we will focus on a separate lesson. This week, we focus on “It’s good to be home”. This is statement spoken by many after a long absence from home and their loved ones—to be back in our home with family emits feelings of comfort and security For we Christians, who prize heaven as our home, we understand the complete joy of being in our God, the Father’s arms—that eternal feeling of comfort and security.

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## Service of Worship and Praise

### OPENING HYMN

Jesus, Your Blood and Righteousness (CW376) 4 Vs.

Jesus, your blood and righteousness My beauty are, my glorious dress;  
Mid flaming worlds, in these arrayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.

Lord, I believe your precious blood, Which at the very throne of God  
Forever will for sinners plead, For me -- e'en for my soul -- was shed.

Lord, I believe were sinners more Than sands upon the ocean shore,  
You have for all a ransom paid, For all a full atonement made.

Jesus, be worshiped endlessly! Your boundless mercy has for me,  
For me and all your hands have made, An everlasting ransom paid.

### WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

*(Read/Sung Responsively)*

M: We gather for worship the same way we were baptized: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

M: As believers in Christ we are called to repent of our sins and forgive one another. In the book of James we are told, "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for one another so that you may be healed." As one body in Christ, we unite our hearts in prayer:

**C: Lord, I pray to you because I am suffering. I have cut myself off from you and others by the sin in my life. I need your forgiveness so that I may find healing for my wounded life and for the wounds I have caused others. Today in the name of Jesus I pray, forgive me; and by the power of your Holy Spirit, renew my heart. Amen.**

*Congregation Sings:*

**Change my heart, O God, Make it ever true.**

**Change my heart, O God, May I be like you.**

**You are the Potter. I am the clay; Mold me and make me. This is what I pray.**

**Change my heart, O God, Make it ever true.**

**Change my heart, O God, May I be like you.**

**You are the Potter. I am the clay; Mold me and make me. This is what I pray.**

**Change my heart, O God, Make it ever true.**

**Change my heart, O God, May I be like you.**

M: We take comfort and find confidence in the words of Jesus, "He sent me to announce forgiveness to the prisoners of sin, to restore sight to the blind, to bring mercy to lives shattered by sin, to announce the favor of the Lord." God gave his only Son, Jesus, to die for our sins and rise from death to give us eternal life. We are forgiven. We live in the favor of the Lord. We live in his power, energized to tell of his peace.

**C: Amen.**

*Congregation Sings:*

**Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises.  
I'm so glad you're in my life; I'm so glad you came to save us.  
You came from heaven to earth to show the way;  
from the earth to the cross, my debt to pay. From the cross to the grave;  
From the grave to the sky; Lord, I lift your name on high.  
Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises.  
I'm so glad you're in my life; I'm so glad you came to save us.  
You came from heaven to earth to show the way;  
from the earth to the cross, my debt to pay. From the cross to the grave;  
From the grave to the sky; Lord, I lift your name on high.**

**FIRST LESSON**

*Zechariah 13:7-9*

“Awake, sword, against my shepherd, against the man who is close to me!” declares the LORD Almighty. “Strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered, and I will turn my hand against the little ones. <sup>8</sup>In the whole land,” declares the LORD, “two-thirds will be struck down and perish; yet one-third will be left in it. <sup>9</sup>This third I will put into the fire; I will refine them like silver and test them like gold. They will call on my name and I will answer them; I will say, “They are my people,’ and they will say, “The LORD is our God.””

**PSALM 22**

*(Spoken Responsively)*

M: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

**C: Why are you so far from saving me?**

M: I am a worm and not a man,

**C: Scorned by men and despised by the people.**

M: All who see me mock me;

**C: They hurl insults, shaking their heads;**

M: “He trusts in the LORD; let the Lord rescue him.

**C: Let him deliver him, since he delights in him.”**

M: My strength is dried up, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;

**C: You lay me in the dust of death.**

M: A band of evil men has encircled me,

**C: They have pierced my hands and my feet.**

M: They divide my garments among them

**C: And cast lots for my clothing;**

M: But you, O LORD, be not far off;

C: O my Strength, come quickly to help me.

## THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

### SECOND LESSON

*Galatians 3:23-29*

Before the coming of this faith, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. <sup>24</sup> So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup> Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian. <sup>26</sup> So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, <sup>27</sup> for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

### SERMON HYMN

Love of God 3 V/s.

**“Love of God revealed in wonder By the works of a Maker’s hand:  
Seas that roar with thund’rous splendor, Fields that whisper at His command.  
All the joys of life we cherish Are God’s gracious sign  
We are children of His promise, Heirs of mercy and grace divine.**

#### *Refrain:*

**Unfailing love from heaven’s throne,  
That sought me out and brought me home;  
My song of praise will ever be: The Father’s love for me.**

**Love of God revealed in frailty Through the gift of a servant King;  
Sov’reign pow’r robed in humility, Prince of Peace crowned with suffering.  
Oh what grace, that calls humanity To kneel at the cross  
And exchange our sin’s futility For the joy of a Father’s love. [Refrain]**

**Love of God, what priceless treasure Over all this world affords;  
To be His and His forever, This my glory and my reward!  
May this love beyond all knowing So capture my soul  
That I’m filled to overflowing With a passion for Christ alone! ” [Refrain]**

### SERMON

**It’s Good to be Home**

*Luke 15:17-32*

“When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death!’<sup>18</sup> I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ <sup>20</sup> So he got up and went to his father. “But while he

was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup> “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup> Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. <sup>24</sup> For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate. <sup>25</sup> “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. <sup>27</sup> ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’ <sup>28</sup> “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. <sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’ <sup>31</sup> “‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. <sup>32</sup> But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”

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

 **SONG OF THE SEASON**

**We Believe 3 V/s.**

**We believe in God the Father Almighty, Lord of life Creator of the Heavens  
The earth, the sea, the sky And we believe in Jesus The only son of God  
Born of the virgin Mary Who lived as one of us.**

*Refrain:*

**We believe in one true God Father, Spirit, Son  
One Church, one faith, one Lord of all, His kingdom come.**

**We believe that Jesus suffered Was beaten, crucified  
He died and he was buried Entombed in darkest night  
The third day rose victorious Ascended into Heav’n.  
Will one day come to judge us The living and the dead. . [Refrain]**

**We believe in God the Spirit One church, empowered by Him  
Communion of God’s people Forgiveness of our sin;  
Our bodies resurrected To everlasting life  
To worship, love and wonder Before the throne of Christ . [Refrain]**

**THE OFFERING AND OFFERING PRAYER**

*(Spoken by Minister)*

**THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*(Spoken by Minister)*

**LORD’S PRAYER**

*(Sung by Congregation)*

*Sung by Congregation:*

**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.**

**BLESSING**

*(Spoken by Minister)*

M: 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.**

**EMSEMBLE**

**Still, My Soul be Still**

<b>Worship Volunteers</b>	July 14th	July 21st	July 28th
<b>Refreshments</b>	Rene Koutia	Lisa Beilke/Liz Sim- kauskas	Sharon Wilson/ Stacey Cornell/ Christina Marcell
<b>Greeters</b>	Hansen	Kuglar	Yauck
<b>Counters</b>	Sasse/Brooks	Wempner/Cornell	Wempner/Plitzuweit
<b>Church Cleaners</b>	Martins	Ehlers	Koutia
<b>Communion Set-Up</b>	-	Susie Cornell	-
<b>Ushers</b>	Steve Julian/Al Alcoba/ Rich Kuglar/Kelly Simp- son	Steve Julian/Bill Grams/John Kull/ Paul Pappenfuss	Bill Brooks/ Brian Ehinger/ Jake Ehinger/ Trey Ehinger Jon Yauck
<b>Vistancia Ushers</b>	Adam Beilke/Payton Beilke/Owen Beilke/Zach Plitzuweit/Tanner Plitzuweit	Steve Julian/ Al Alcoba/ Rich Kuglar/ Kelly Simpson	Steve Julian/Bill Grams/John Kull/Paul Pappenfuss

### **THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY**

July 19th 6:30 pm Ladies Bunco Night  
 July 20th 6:00 pm Worship Service w/Communion (Jomax)  
 July 21st 9:00 am Worship Service w/Communion (Jomax)  
 July 21st 9:30 am Worship Service w/Communion (Vistancia)

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

July 23rd 6:30pm Board of Ed  
 July 23rd 7:00pm Dos Rios HOA Meeting  
 July 26th 6:30pm Ice Cream Social  
 July 27th 6:00pm Worship Service (Jomax)  
 July 28th 9:00am Worship Service (Jomax)

## Special Announcements

\*\*\*\*Josh and Rachel Severeid are in search for a reliable vehicle \$5000 or under. If you know of anything please call Rachel (920)629-1278

\*\*\*\*On Sunday, July 14th, at 4 pm there is a special ordination/ installation service for at Paradise Valley Lutheran Church for Pastor Rodewald. The have invited all members and pastors of Cross of Glory to join them for this service. Pastors, active and retired are invited to participate in the laying of hands for their new pastor. The pastors are asked to gather in the sacristy at 3:45 pm with their red stole.

\*\*\*\*Heritage Lutheran Church of Gilbert, Arizona, invites you to the worship service celebrating the installation of Aaron Bublitz as its new pastor. The service will take place on July 21<sup>st</sup>, beginning at 4pm in the afternoon. A fellowship meal will follow. Any pastor wishing to participate in the laying on of hands of blessing Aaron as he undertakes his mission and ministry in Gilbert should wear a white robe adorned with a red stole, unless, as is the case with the former pastor of Heritage, you only have a black robe. We will still consider you one whose robe has been washed clean in the blood of the Lamb and your words to Aaron a reflection of the fellowship that you share with him. If you cannot attend, please keep Aaron, wife Laura, and their children in your prayers as they make the transition from a Midwestern climate to the Valley of the Sun.

\*\*\*\*The preschool is in need some one to sew a few blankets. If anyone is interested please contact Brenda Grams or Susan Ehlers.

\*\*\*\*COG Golden Agers will not be meeting in July as the first Thursday is the 4th. We will resume for brunch and fellowship on Thursday, August 1st, 2019. Brunch is held at The 5 & Diner, 11340 W Bell Road, #125, Surprise, Az. Please RSVP Judy Sasse, sasseja43@aol.com or 602-618-6967

\*\*\*\* The upcoming Men's Retreat will take place October 11th-13th at UCYC Prescott. The initial \$50 deposit can be paid via check or online through Vanco. Check payments are made to Cross of Glory and placed in offering plate, Please reference Men's Retreat on both methods of payment. There is a sign up sheet in the main entry or here is the link to reserve your spot via sign-up genius.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F4BAAAAA29AA8-mens>



ONE CHURCH....TWO LOCATIONS

**JOMAX CAMPUS - NEWS**

**VISTANCIA CAMPUS - NEWS**

**Ladies Bunco Night**

Friday, July 19th

6:30 pm

**Ice Cream Social**

Friday, July 26th

6:30 pm to 8:00 pm



**5k Community Run**  
Saturday, September 28th

# LADIES BUNCO NIGHT

**FRIDAY,  
JULY  
19TH  
6:30 PM**



**BRING YOUR OWN  
DRINKS AND AN  
APPETIZER OR DESSERT  
TO PASS!**

**Fun**

Homemade Ice  
Cream Competition

**Friends**

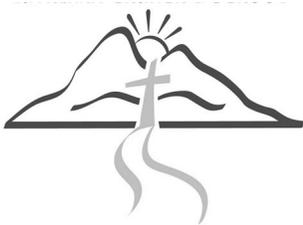


**Fellowship**

**Music**

Friday, July  
26th

6:30 pm to 8:00 pm



**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.