

Lent 4
Sunday, March 31, 2019
Full Script



Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School

Church Phone: 623-224-8839 School Phone: 623-224-8841

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



Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School



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.

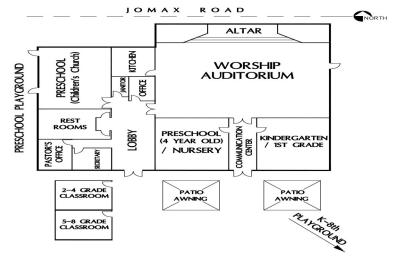
Families with children:

- 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





In the mind of humans, it just doesn't make logical sense. That an all-powerful God would offer up in sacrifice his only Son for mankind who by very nature hates God, just sounds ludicrous. Though it appears foolish to the unbeliever, the glorious message of the cross is revealed to the repentant heart as the power of God for the salvation of souls. Therefore, we preach Christ crucified.

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

OPENING HYMN

Lift High the Cross (CW579) 3 Vs.

Refrain:

Lift high the cross; the love of Christ proclaim Till all the world adore his sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod, Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. [Refrain]

Led on their way by this triumphant sign,

The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. [Refrain]

So shall our song of triumph ever be:

Praise to the Crucified for victory. [Refrain]

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.

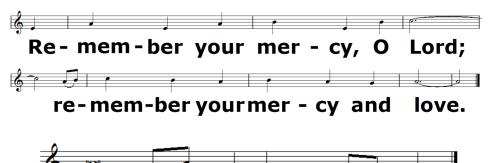
PRAYER OF THE DAY (Spoken by Minister)

M: Almighty God, we confess that we deserve to be punished for our evil deeds. But we ask you graciously to cleanse us from all sin and to comfort us with your salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 12:1-6

In that day you will say: "I will praise you, LORD. Although you were angry with me, your anger has turned away and you have comforted me. ² Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation." ³ With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴ In that day you will say: "Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted. ⁵ Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world. ⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you."

PSALM 32 (Sung Responsively)



Refrain

M: Blessed is he whose transgressions are for-gi-ven,

C: Whose sins are cov-ered.

M: When I kept silent, your hand was heavy up-on me;

C: My strength was sapped as in the heat of sum-mer.

M: Then I acknowledged my sin to you

C: And did not cover up my in-<u>i-quity</u>.

M: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"—

C: And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Refrain

M: You are my hid-ing place;

C: You will protect me from trou-ble.

M: Many are the woes of the wick-ed,

C: But the LORD's unfailing love surrounds the man who trusts in him.

ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
And to the Holy Spir-it,
As it was in the be-gin-ning,
Is now, and will be forever. A-men.

Refrain

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

VERSE OF THE DAY (Spoken by Minister)

M: For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 15:1-3,11b-32

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. ²But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." ³Then Jesus told them this parable: "There was a man who had two sons. 12 The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. 13 "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living.¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. 17 "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! 18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' ²⁰ 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. ²¹ "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' 22 "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. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate. ²⁵ "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷ Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' 28 "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ 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. ³⁰ But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!' ³¹ "My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³² 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."

SERMON HYMN

Drawn to the Cross (CW387) 4 Vs.

Drawn to the cross, which you have blessed With healing gifts for souls distressed, To find in you my life, my rest, Christ crucified, I come.

How well you know my griefs and fears, Your grace abused, my misspent years; So now to you with contrite tears, Christ crucified, I come.

Wash me and take away each stain; Let nothing of my sin remain. For cleansing through your cross and pain, Christ crucified, I come.

To pledge my labor willingly, Which shall so sweet a service be That angels well might envy me, Christ crucified, I come.

SERMON We Preach Christ Crucified

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate." ²⁰ Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. ²² Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

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

APOSTLES' CREED (Spoken in Unison)

C:I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SONG OF THE SEASON

A Purple Robe (LAP250) 2 Vs.

The soloist will sing Vs. 1 and the Congregation joins for Vs. 2

A purple robe, a crown of thorn, a reed in His right hand; before the soldiers' spite and scorn I see my Savior stand. He bears between the Roman guard the weight of all our woe; a stumbling figure, bowed and scarred I see my Savior go.

He hangs, by whom the world was made, beneath the darkened sky; the everlasting ransom paid, I see my Savior die. He shares on high his Father's throne, who once in mercy came; for all His love to sinners shown I sing my Savior's name.

THE OFFERING AND OFFERING PRAYER

(Spoken by Minister)

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Spoken by Minister)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Spoken in Unison)

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.

CLOSING PRAYER (Prayed by Minister)

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: 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.

What Grace is This? (CWS715) 5 Vs.

What grace is this! My Lord and King Has set his face to suffering. My God eternal dies to bring Eternal life to me.

What grace is this- That very God Would stoop to lift a cross of wood And walk a road of rock and blood, A sinner's road, for me.

What grace is this! Though Lord of all, He yields to Pontius Pilate's law And lets the Roman hammers draw a rush of blood for me.

What grace is this Rude agonies! With common thieves he hangs and bleeds. The sinless Son bears each misdeed. He pays for all, for me.

What grace is this? How can it be? He wears this raw humility To lift me to eternity. Such grace-sweet grace= for me.

IN OUR 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 to them and their families.

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

Charles Klar, a friend of James & Cristy Meringer was diagnosed with acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML). A donor has been found and he is in the process for receiving the new bone marrow.

Phyllis Beeson, friend of Shawn Novak diagnosed with cancer in Hospice care. **April Johnson**, is at home after she suffered the stroke and is still recovering.

MILITARY

Major JD Larson, son of John & Chi Larson, based at Kirtland 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 and Karyn Nelsen and brother of Seri and Lilli, USMC.

Major Nick Borns, son-in-law of Rich and Linda Kugler, logistics officer at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego.

Ben Weyer, serving in the military. Please pay that the heavenly father keeps him safe in his journey.

Worship Volunteers	Mar. 31	April 7	April 14
Refreshments	Clara Naber	Rene Kotia	Paula Considine
Greeters	Wilson	Kugler	Plitzuweit/ M. Kelley
Church Cleaning	Meringer	Martins/ P. Ehlers	Koutia/Kugler
Counters	Wempner/Cornell	Wempner/ Voigt	Sasse/Brooks
Communion Set-Up	-	Sharon Kull	Co ri nne Julian
Ushers	Gary Jeffer/ Verl Naber/ Grant Stern/ John Wempner	Chris Patterson/ Cody Hall/ Caleb Patterson/ Isaac Paterson/ Titus Patterson	Adam Beilke/ Payton Beilke/ Owen Beilke/ Zach Plitzuweit/ Tanner Plitzuweit
Vistancia Ushers	Bill Brooks/ Brian Ehinger/ Jake Ehinger/ Trey Ehinger/ Jon Yauck	Gary Jeffer/ Verl Naber/ Grant Stern/ John Wempner	Chris Patterson/ Cody Hall/ Caleb Patterson/ Isaac Paterson/ Titus Patterson

Growth Groups

Here's a list of the various groups that we have active. You have the opportunity to sign up for them on our <u>website</u> or by getting in touch with the leaders of the group. Enjoy!

Men's Group

Led by Al Alcoba. The group meets from 7:30 - 9:00 am on Saturday mornings.

Women's Bible Study Group

They meet on Tuesdays from 9:30 - 11:00 am at Karen Jurado's home.

Book Study: Is Genesis History?

Led by Gary Jeffers, this group meets on Mondays from 6:30 - 8:00 pm.

Mothers' Growth Group for Moms and Kids

Led by Ally Kelley and Liz Simkauskas every other Wednesday from 9:15 - 11:45 am. The moms are studying a book titled *Ladies of Legacy*, which takes a look at women from the Bible.

Book Study: The Study of World Religion

Led by Pastor John Ehlers on Wednesdays from 7:00 - 8:30 pm. There will be a new time & date change will occur on March 4th from 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm.

Sunday Morning Bible Study at 10:30 am: Civil Government, Gods other Kingdom. There is a book that you can purchase thru NPH, but it is not necessary to have.



ONE CHURCH....TWO LOCATIONS

JOMAX CAMPUS - NEWS

Talent Show

Cross of Glory Annual Show Friday, April 5th from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm Sign Up in the school entrance if you interested!

If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please speak with the secretary!

VISTANCIA CAMPUS - NEWS

Eggstravaganza

Saturday, April 20th 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Location: MVC Event Lawn \$5 Per Child, under 1 is free

Celebrate spring with us at this annual signature event! Kids will enjoy participating in the egg scramble. There will be food, inflatables, crafts, music and petting zoo!

We need volunteers. Please speak with Pastor Ehlers if you can.

THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

April	1	11:30 am	School - Early Release		
April	1	6:30 pm	Growth Group with Gary Jeffers		
April	1	7:30 pm	Growth Group with Pastor Ehlers		
April	2	1	ALA Grade School Track Meet		
April	2	9:30 am	Women's Bible Study Group		
April	3	9:00 am	Mornings with Mommy		
April	3	5:00 pm	Catechism Class		
April	3	6:00 pm	Lent - Soup Supper		
April	3	7:00 pm	Lent Worship Service		
April	3	8:00 pm	Choir Practice		
April	4	9:30 am	COG Golden Agers Brunch		
April	5	6:30 pm	COG Talent Show		
April	6	1	ALA Spelling Bee & Math Bowl		
April	6	7:30 am	Growth Group with Al Alcoba		
April	6	7:30 am	Elders Meeting		
April	6	6:00 pm	Worship Service w/Communion at Jomax		
April	7	9:00 am	Worship Service w/Communion at Jomax		
April	7	9:30 am	Worship Service w/Communion at Vistancia		
LOOKING AHEAD INCLUDING SCHOOL					
April	8	6:30 pm	Growth Group with Gary Jeffers		
April	8	7:30 pm	Growth Group with Pastor Ehlers		
April	9	9:30 am	Women's Bible Study Group		
April	9	6:30 pm	Church Council		
April	10	9:15 am	Mothers Growth Group		
April	10	5:00 pm	Catechism Class		
April	10	6:00 pm	Lent - Soup Supper		
April	10	7:00 pm	Lent Worship Service		
April	10	8:00 pm	Choir Practice		
April	12	4:00 pm	Kumon Graduation		
April	13	7:30 am	Growth Group with Al Alcoba		
April	13	9:00 am	Women's Service Group		
April	13	9:00 am	Women's Clothing Sale		
April	13	6:00 pm	Confirmation Examination		
April	14	9:00 am	Confirmation		
April	14	9:00 am	Palm Sunday Worship Service w/Communion		
			at Jomax		
April	14		Pre-K-8 Sings in Church		
April	14	9:30 am	Palm Sunday Worship Service w/Communion		
			at Vistancia		



The overall theme for the 2019 Lenten sermons is "Three Words of Truth." Each service focuses on a poignant three-word phrase from the record of Jesus' passion and resurrection.

April 3 – Take Him Away! – Vicar, Grace, Glendale

April 10 – Is It I? – Pastor Lincoln Albrecht, River of Life, Goodyear

April 14 (Palm Sunday) – Save Us Now!

April 18 (Maundy Thursday) – Take and Eat; Take and Drink

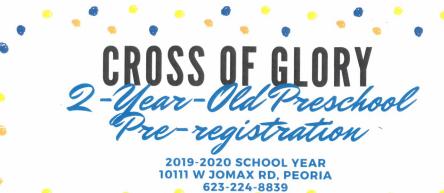
April 19 (Good Friday) – Tenebrae Service

April 21 (Easter Sunrise Service)

April 21 (Easter Festival Service) – Remember Jesus Christ: He Has Risen!



Did you lend a sleeping bag to any of the visiting students from Lakeside Lutheran School? If you did and have not picked it up yet, please look in the secretary's office for it.



What is "pre-registration"?

We are getting closer to our dream goal of building a new early childhood center! God-willing, we will soon be able to offer a 2-year-old preschool class at Cross of Glory Lutheran School. In order to facilitate this process we are calling for a 2-year-old preschool pre-registration. Pre-registration means that you would be interested in using this service (if we can provide it by the fall of 2019). Pre-registering your child would guarantee their enrollment--up to the first 16 students. Beyond 16 students, we will generate a waiting list. This pre-registration involves no cost to you, but it is vital for our planning purposes.

What can you expect in our 2-year-old preschool? Our goal at Cross of Glory Preschool is to nurture the Christian development of the whole child:

Our goal at Cross of Glory Preschool is to nurture the Christian development of the whole child: spiritually, emotionally, socially, physically, intellectually, and creatively. At the 2-year-old level, this includes story time, Bible time, music, sensory bins and crafts. At Cross of Glory, we know that all children are precious gifts of God. They are the next generation and the promise of the future. As such, they are treated with love and respect in a sincere and caring Christian environment.

Child's name: Birthdate:	rent's name:	
WE WANT TO RESERVE A SPO	T IN THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM	
☐ 5 Days All Day (7am-5:30p	om) \$1000 / month	
🗌 5 Days Half Days (7am-12p	om) \$575 / month	
☐ 3 Days All Day (7am-5:30p	om) \$675 / month	
2 Days All Day (7am-5:30p	om) \$475 / month	
Other if offered:		



Youth Group Activity

BOWLING DAY

NOW open to all Teens
We are now expanding it, to meet the minimum requirement.

Please join us at:

UPTOWN ALLY 13525 North Litchfield Road Surprise, Arizona 85375

> March 31st 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm

\$10.00 - Per Teen (this includes shoe rental, a meal, dessert, soda bar & one game of laser tag!)



Connecting faith & finances for good.®

HOW TO DIRECT THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS®

Eligible members can recommend where Thrivent distributes a portion of its charitable funding by directing Choice Dollars®. Members become eligible for Thrivent Choice based on insurance premiums, contract values and Thrivent volunteer leadership.

These are expiring by March 31!



Please join COG Golden Agers for brunch and fellowship on

Thursday, April 4, 2019 @ 9:30 am

Held at The Five and Diner Delux, 11340 West Bell Road, #125, Surprise, AZ

Please RSVP to Judy Sasse, email or phone sasseja43@aol.com or 602-618-6967.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL.....IS BACK



We need volunteers to help with VBS this year. If you are interested, please speak with the secretary or Pastor Foxen!







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.

Saturday Worship at 6pm (Jomax) Sunday Worship at 9am (Jomax) 9:30am (Vistancia) Bible Study Session 10:30am (Jomax)