

# GIVE THANKS

*in all circumstances;*  
1 Thessalonians 5:18



*Thanksgiving*  
*Wednesday, November 27, 2019*  
Full Script



## Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School

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

[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**

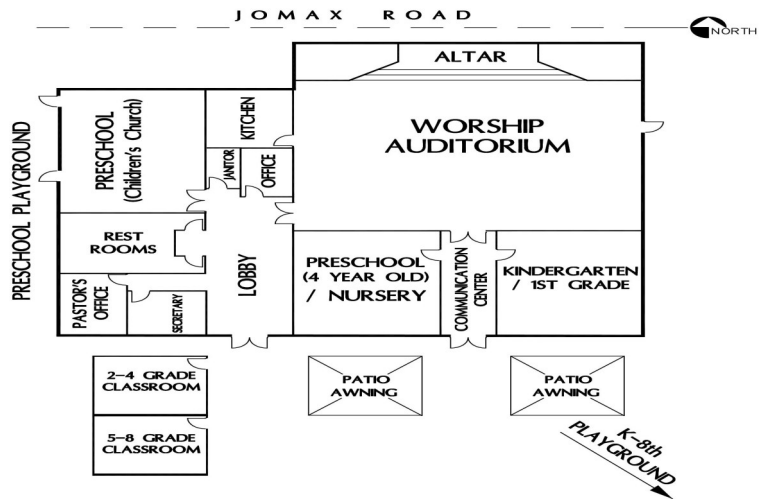
**Welcome to our Worship Center!** God defines a church as people gathering around Word and Sacrament. As you join us in this gathering, we pray that Jesus' peace and power will fill you.

**Families with children:**

- Restrooms with changing tables located in lobby .
- Nursery for toddlers 2 years and younger accompanied by adult guardian.

**Special needs:**

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



The theme for our Thanksgiving worship comes from the encouragement of St. Paul in 1 Thessalonians 5:18: Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. The Lord didn't just have Paul write those words, God helped him to live them. You can read in Philippians how St. Paul was able to be content in both plenty and in great difficulty by relying on the Lord and His promises for strength. The Lord enabled Paul's heart to be filled with thanksgiving even when he was imprisoned for teaching about Christ. We pray the Holy Spirit would strengthen our hearts through His Word, that we too may be ready to give thanks to God in all circumstances and at all times.

**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).

## *Give Thanks in All Circumstances—Thanksgiving, 2019*

### OPENING HYMN

For the Fruit of His Creation (CW611) 3 Vs.

For the fruit of his creation, Thanks be to God.  
For his gifts to ev'ry nation, Thanks be to God.  
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, Silent growth while we are sleeping,  
Future needs in earth's safe-keeping, Thanks be to God.  
In the just reward of labor, God's will be done.  
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will be done.  
In our worldwide task of caring For the hungry and despairing,  
In the harvests we are sharing, God's will be done.  
For the harvests of the Spirit, Thanks be to God.  
For the good we all inherit, Thanks be to God.  
For the wonders that astound us, For the truths that still confound us,  
Most of all that Love has found us, Thanks be to God.

### GREETING

*(Spoken Responsively)*

M: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*(Spoken Responsively)*

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**C: Lord of Life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, For sins of habit and sins of choice, For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, You should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

### DIALOGUE OF THANKSGIVING FROM PSALM 100

*(Spoken Responsively)*

M: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

**C: Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.**

M: Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us,

**C: and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.**

M: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;

**C: give thanks to him and praise his name.**

M: For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;

**C: his faithfulness continues through all generations.**

**CHOIR**

**My Heart is Filled with Thankfulness**

**PART ONE: Give thanks to the Lord...*in Plenty***  
*Deuteronomy 8:10-18*

When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you. <sup>11</sup> Be careful that you do not forget the LORD your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. <sup>12</sup> Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, <sup>13</sup> and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, <sup>14</sup> then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. <sup>15</sup> He led you through the vast and dreadful wilderness, that thirsty and waterless land, with its venomous snakes and scorpions. He brought you water out of hard rock. <sup>16</sup> He gave you manna to eat in the wilderness, something your ancestors had never known, to humble and test you so that in the end it might go well with you. <sup>17</sup> You may say to yourself, “My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.” <sup>18</sup> But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.



**HYMN OF RESPONSE**

**Creations Sings the Father's Song 3 Vs.**

**Creation sings the Father's song; He calls the sun to wake the dawn  
And run the course of day Till evening falls in crimson rays.  
His fingerprints in flakes of snow, His breath upon this spinning globe,  
He charts the eagle's flight; Commands the newborn baby's cry.**

*Refrain:*

**Hallelujah! Let all creation stand and sing,  
"Hallelujah!" Fill the earth with songs of worship;  
Tell the wonders of creation's King.**

**Creation gazed upon His face; The ageless One in time's embrace  
Unveiled the Father's plan Of reconciling God and man.  
A second Adam walked the earth, Whose blameless life would break the curse,  
Whose death would set us free To live with Him eternally. [Refrain]**

Creation longs for His return, When Christ shall reign upon the earth;  
The bitter wars that rage Are birth pains of a coming age.  
When He renews the land and sky, All heav'n will sing and earth reply  
With one resplendent theme: The glories of our God and King! *[Refrain]*

**PART TWO: Give thanks to the Lord...*in Difficulty***  
*Habakkuk 3:17-19*

Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, <sup>18</sup>yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Savior. <sup>19</sup>The Sovereign LORD is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to tread on the heights.

 **HYMN OF RESPONSE** **We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer** (*CW609*) 3 Vs.

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator!  
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring:  
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;  
We bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.  
We worship you, God of our fathers; we bless you.  
Through trial and tempest our guide you have been;  
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,  
And with your help, O Lord, our battles we win.  
With voices united our praises we offer;  
To you, great Jehovah, glad anthems we raise.  
Your strong arm will guide us; our God is beside us.  
To you, our great Redeemer, fore'er be praise!

**PART THREE: Give thanks to the Lord...*for Difficulty***  
*2 Corinthians 12:7-10*

Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. <sup>8</sup>Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. <sup>9</sup>But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. <sup>10</sup>That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

 **HYMN OF RESPONSE** **How Firm a Foundation** (*CWS768*) 3 Vs.

How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!

What more can he say than to you he has said  
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

“Fear not! I am with you. Oh, be not dismayed;  
For I am your God and will still give you aid;  
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

“Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove  
My sov’rign, eternal, unchangeable love,  
And then, when gray hair shall their temples adorn,  
Like lambs they shall still on my shoulders be borne.”

**PART FOUR: Give thanks to the Lord...for *Forgiveness***  
*Psalm 103:1-5, 8-12*

Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. <sup>2</sup>Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits— <sup>3</sup>who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, <sup>4</sup>who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, <sup>5</sup>who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s. <sup>8</sup>The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. <sup>9</sup>He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; <sup>10</sup>he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. <sup>11</sup>For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; <sup>12</sup>as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.



**HYMN OF RESPONSE**

**Redeemed, Restored, Forgiven** (CW388) 2 V.s.

Redeemed, restored, forgiven Through Jesus' precious blood,  
Heirs of his home in heaven -- Oh, praise our pard'ning God!  
Praise him in tuneful measures Who gave his Son to die;  
Praise him whose sev'nfold treasures Enrich and sanctify.  
Now keep us, holy Savior, In your true love and fear,  
And grant us by your favor The grace to persevere  
Till, in your new creation, Our earthly troubles o'er,  
Heirs of your free salvation, We praise you evermore.

**PART FIVE: Give thanks to the Lord...in *Death***  
*Philippians 1:20-24*

I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. <sup>21</sup>For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup>If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! <sup>23</sup>I am torn between the two: I desire to

depart and be with Christ, which is better by far;<sup>24</sup> but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body.

 **HYMN OF RESPONSE**

**For Me to Live is Jesus** (CW606) 4 Vs.

For me to live is Jesus; To die is gain for me.  
So, when my Savior pleases, I meet death willingly.  
For Christ, my Lord and brother, I leave this world so dim  
And gladly seek another, Where I shall be with him.  
In my last hour, oh, grant me A slumber soft and still,  
No doubts to vex or haunt me, Safe anchored in your will.  
Amen! For Christ my Savior Will grant this unto me.  
Your Spirit lead me ever That I fare happily.

**THE OFFERING AND OFFERING PRAYER**

*(Spoken by Minister)*

**THANKSGIVING PRAYER**

*(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.**

**DIALOGUE OF THANKS FROM PSALM 118**

*(Spoken Responsively)*

M: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

**C: his love endures forever.**

M: Let those who fear the LORD say:

**C: "His love endures forever."**

M: "The LORD's right hand has done mighty things! The LORD's right hand is lifted high;

**C: The LORD's right hand has done mighty things!"**

M: I will not die but live,

**C: and will proclaim what the LORD has done.**

M: I will give You thanks, for You answered me;

**C: You have become my salvation.**

M: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

**C: his love endures forever.**

## 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.**



## CLOSING HYMN

**Now Thanks We All Our God** (CW610) 2

Vs.

**Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done, In whom his world rejoices,  
Who from our mother's arms Has blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love And still is ours today.**

**All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given,  
The Son, and him who reigns With them in highest heaven,  
The one eternal God, Whom earth and heav'n adore!  
For thus it was, is now, And shall be evermore.**



**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.