

Christmas 1
Sunday, December 29, 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

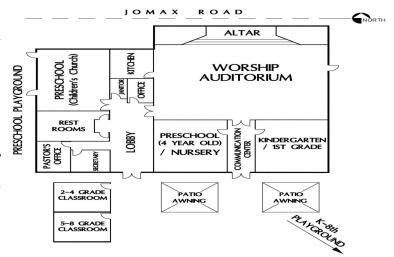
Lake Pleasant Elementary School 31501 N. Westland Road Peoria, AZ 85383

Sun. 9:30am Worship

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.



You've undoubtedly heard the phrase, "Christmas is for children." In terms of the world, children look with wonder on the festive lights, sounds and fragrances of this time of year. But, for us Christians, this phrase has a more important significance. We know that Christmas means that Jesus was born to bring us wayward children back to the Father through his perfect life and dying on the cross. As we sing in the familiar hymn, "Hark the Herald Angels Sing", "God and sinners reconciled". Christmas is for us, the children of God.

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

O Come Little Children 3 Vs.

Oh, come, all ye children, oh, come, one and all, To Bethlehem haste, to the manger so small. God's Son for a gift has been sent you this night To be your Redeemer, your Joy and Delight.

He's born in a stable for you and for me, Draw near by the bright gleaming starlight to see, In swaddling clothes lying, so meek and so mild, And purer than angels, the heavenly Child.

Kneel down and adore him with shepherds today, Lift up little hands now and praise him as they; Rejoice that a Savior from sin you can boast, And join in the song of the heavenly host.

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– Let All Together Praise Our God (CW41) 3 Vs.)

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

Congregation Sings:

Let all together praise our God Before his highest throne; Today he opens heav'n again And gives us his own Son, And gives us his own Son. He veils in flesh his pow'r divine A servant's form to take; In want and lowliness must die Who heav'n and earth did make, Who heav'n and earth did make.

He serves that I a lord may be—A great exchange indeed! Could Jesus' love do more for me to help me in my need? To help me in my need?

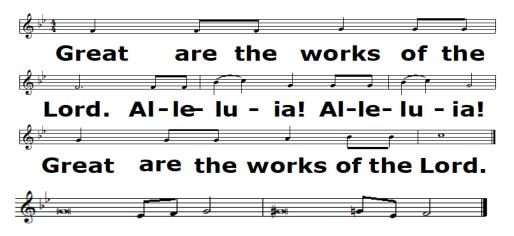
PRAYER OF THE DAY (Spoken by Minister)

M: Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 63:7-9

I will tell of the kindnesses of the LORD, the deeds for which he is to be praised, according to all the LORD has done for us— yes, the many good things he has done for Israel, according to his compassion and many kindnesses. ⁸ He said, "Surely they are my people, children who will be true to me"; and so he became their Savior. ⁹ In all their distress he too was distressed, and the angel of his presence saved them. In his love and mercy he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

PSALM 2 (Sung Responsively)



Refrain Sung by Congregation

M: Why do the nations con-spire?

C: And the peoples <u>plot</u> in vain?

M: The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together a-gainst the Lord

C: And against his A-nointed One.

Refrain Sung by Congregation

M: The One enthroned in heav-en laughs;

C: The Lord scoffs at them.

M: Then He rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, say-ing,

C: "I have installed my King on Zion, my ho-ly hill."

M: I will proclaim the decree of the LORD":

C: He said to me, "You are my Son; today I have become your Fa-ther."

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son

And to the Holy **Spir**-it.

As it was in the be-gin-ing,

Is now, and will be forever. A-men.

Refrain Sung by Congregation

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

VERSE OF THE DAY

(Spoken by Minister; Sung Response by Congregation)

M: Alleluia. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. Alleluia. (Colossians 3:15a)

Sung by Congregation:

Alleluia, Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 2:13-23

When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." 14 So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, 15 where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son." 16 When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. ¹⁷Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: ¹⁸ "A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."19 After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt 20 and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child's life are dead." 21 So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, ²³ and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.

I am So Glad When Christmas Comes (CW51) 4 Vs.

I am so glad when Christmas comes, the night of Jesus's birth.

When Bethl'em's star shone as the sun, and angels sang on earth.

The little child of Bethlehem, he was a king indeed!

For he came down from heav'n above to help a world in need.

He lives again in heaven's realm, the Son of God today;

And still he loves his little ones and hears them when they pray.

I too, shall sing my Savior's praise, my joy, my crown, my Lord:

For he has made me his own child by water and the Word.

SERMON Christmas is for Children Galatians 4:4-7

For the child of God who was born a man ... For the children of men who are adopted by God

But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. 6 Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." 7 So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

(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

Still, Still, Still (LAP289) 3 Vs.

Still, still, Your heart with joy I'd fill.

I'd sing you a song and watch by your manger,

Guard you from harm and keep you from danger.

Still, still, your heart with joy I'd fill.

Sleep, sleep, 'Mid the oxen and the sheep.

The shepherds come to see your glory;

Angels bend low to tell the story,

Sleep, sleep, 'mid the oxen and the sheep.

Still, still, within your holy will. To you, great God, my voice I'll raise, With awe and wonder sing your praise, Still, still, within your holy will.

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.

CLOSING HYMN

Let Us All with Gladsome Voice (CW64) 4 Vs.

Let us all with gladsome voice Praise the God of heaven,

Who, to bid our hearts rejoice, His own Son has given.

To this vale of tears he comes, Here to serve in sadness, That with him in heav'n's fair homes We may reign in gladness.

We are rich, for he was poor; Is not this a wonder?

Therefore praise God evermore Here on earth and yonder.

O Lord Christ, our Savior dear, Bless us and be near us.

Grant us now a glad new year. Amen, Jesus, hear us!

ANNOUNCMENTS

****The Treasurer Report is available for pickup in the Church entry.

****Pastor Foxen will be out of the office December 31st– January 3rd. If you need a Pastor during this time please contact Pastor Ehlers.

**** There will be a Memorial Service for Jack Powell Sunday the 29th at 11:00am. Directly following the service will be fellowship and meal as we remember Jack Powell. Please let Liz know if you are able to bring something to pass or signup on the signup genius.

****The Women's Service Group will be meeting January 4th at 9am to discuss the upcoming year including the LWMS Rally we are hosting in April.

****A workday is planned for January 4th at 9:00am. The plan is to build the new shed and organize the big shed.

****Vistancia will be having two Potluck and planning meetings in January that will be held at Vistancia's Mountain Vista Club. Pastor Ehlers has passed out info that will be discussed at this meeting. If you are interested and did not receive the information packet, please contact Pastor Ehlers.

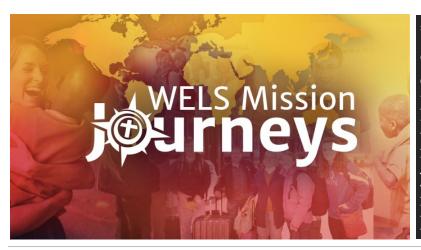
****At our call meeting on December 1st, the congregation called Jared Christiansen to be our new principal. He currently serves at St. Paul Lutheran School in St. James, Minnesota. Please keep him and his family in your prayers as he considers where he can best use his gifts in the Lord's kingdom.

****There will be a sign-up sheet for Vistancia Worship Volunteers for December and January. Areas include refreshments, trailer hauling, set-up, take-down, sound management and playing piano. If you are interested in serving please sign up or contact Liz for available dates.

****Meditations for Prison Ministry--Please put your used Meditations in the box in the entry way. Meditations are sent to the WELS Prison Ministry quarterly and then distributed to prisoners. Questions? Contact Lynn Wempner

****Please join COG Golden Agers for brunch and fellowship on Thursday, January 2nd, 2019. Held at The Five and Diner Delux, 11340 W Bell Road, #125, Surprise, Az. Please RSVP to Judy Sasse, email or phone, sasse-ja43@aol.com or 602-618-6967.

****The New Church Directories are located in the back of church. Thank you everyone who verified your information.



****January 8-12th we have 8 college students and one chaperone coming here with WELS Mission Journeys from Fond Du Lac, WI. We are looking for host families while they are here. If you are able to open your home for a few please contact Pastor Ehlers.

THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

December 31st 6:00pm New Years Eve Service January 2nd 9:30am Golden Agers Brunch

January 4th 8:00am Elders Meeting
January 4th 9:00am Work Day

January 4th 9:00am Women's Service Group Meeting

January 4th 6:00pm Worship Service w/Communion (Jomax)
January 5th 9:00am Worship Service w/Communion (Jomax)
January 5th 9:30am Worship Service w/Communion (Vistancia)

January 5th 11:15am Potluck / Planning Meeting (Vistancia Vista Club)

LOOKING AHEAD

January 7th 7:00pm Evangelism Meeting

January 8th-12th Mission Journey's Outreach January 8th 9:00am Mom's Growth Group

January 8th 7:00pm Choir Practice

January 11th 7:50am Growth Group w/Pastor Freeman

January 11th 6:00pm Worship Service at (Jomax)
January 12th 9:00am Worship Service at (Jomax)
January 12th 9:30am Worship Service at (Vistancia)

January 12th 10:30am Bible Study January 12th 10:30am Sunday School

Growth Groups

Pastor Ehlers

Wednesdays at Resuming 1.15.20 Michael Wenniger's House

Sunday Morning Bible Class

Sunday at 10:30 Jomax Campus Resumes1.12.20

Tim Grams - The Book Galatians

Wednesdays at 6:30 pm 1.15.20– 2.19.20 Grams House

Women's Bible Study- God the

<u>Ultimate Humanitarian</u>

Tuesdays at 9:30 am Resuming 1.14.19 Karen Jurado's House

Mom's Group- Ally Kelley

Wednesday at 9:00 am Resumes 1.8.20 Ally Kelley's House

Pastor Freeman-People of the Bible

Saturdays 7:50 am Resumes 1.11.20 Jomax Campus

COG Golden Agers

Please join for brunch and fellowship on first Thursday of every month, at 9:30am. Held at The Five and Diner Delux, 11340 W Bell Road, #125, Surprise, Az. Please RSVP to Judy Sasse, email or phone, sasseja43@aol.com or 602-618-6967.

Jomax				
Jomax Worship Volunteers	December 29th	January 5th	January 12th	
Refreshments	Laurel Bollmeier/ Connie Sauer	Lisa Beilke/ Liz Simkauskas/ Angela Hall	Rene Koutia	
Greeters	Bollmeier	-	Sasse/ Bollmeier	
Counters	Wempner Voigt	Sasse/Cannon	Sasse/Brooks	
Church Cleaners	Moe/ James	Plitzuweit/Alcoba/ Peterson	Ebel/ Meringer	
Communion Set-Up	-	Sharon	-	
Ushers	Steve Julian/ Al Alcoba/ Rich Kugler/ Kelly Simpson	Bill Brooks/ Brian Ehinger/ Jake Ehinger/ Trey Ehinger/ Jon Yauck	Adam Beilke/ Payton Beilke/ Owen Beilke/ Zach Plitzuweit/ Tanner Plitzuweit	

Vistancia				
Vistancia Worship Volunteers	December 29th	January 5th	January 12th	
Snacks	Kenzie & Sheri Garver	-	-	
Trailer Hauling	Jon Wempner	Ed Taylor	-	
Set up	-	-	-	
Sound Management	-	-	-	
Piano Playing	-	-	-	
Ushers	Chris Patterson/ Cody Hall/ Caleb Patterson/ Isaac Patterson/ Titus Patterson	Steve Julian/ Al Alcoba/ Rich Kugler/ Kelly Simpson	Bill Brooks/ Brian Ehinger/ Jake Ehinger/ Trey Ehinger/ Jon Yauck	

ONE CHURCH....TWO LOCATIONS

JOMAX CAMPUS - NEWS

Jack Powell Memorial Service

Sunday, December 29th 11:00 am

New Years Eve Service

Tuesday, December 31st 6:00 pm

Workday

Saturday, January 4th 9:00 am

Women's Service Group Meeting

Saturday, January 4th 9:00 am



VISTANCIA CAMPUS - NEWS

New Years Eve Service

Tuesday, December 31st 6:00 pm (Jomax)

Potluck/Planning Meeting

Sunday, January 5th 11:15 am (Mountain Vista Club)

Potluck/Planning Meeting

Sunday, January 26th 11:15 am (Mountain Vista Club)



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 to them and their families.

Faye Kennedy, as she recovers from recent health issues.

Wanda Dede, the Grandmother of Angela Hall, who recently fell and cracked ribs and is in ICU with kidney issues.

Pat Powell, that God would grant her comfort after the loss of her husband. .

Gerry Ehlers, who continues to struggle with cancer and whose daughter (in her 40s) died suddenly last week from a heart attack.

Juanita Word, who fell recently and had surgery to mend her broken leg and has a six month recovery ahead.

Beth Breamer, the sister of Clarine Wallace, who had surgery on Friday, November 15th, to remove a kidney & other cancer.

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

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, Currently deployed to the Persian Gulf. Please pray that our Heavenly Father keeps him safe in his journey



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.