

Important questions for

L E N T

Who's most important?

Lent 4
Sunday, March 22, 2020
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 Cross of Glory's online worship! God defines a church as people gathering around Word and Sacrament, and we recognize that this can happen via technology as well as in a physical building. Thank the Lord for blessing us with the means to continue worshipping together in this way! As you join us in this gathering, we pray that Jesus' peace and power fill you.

Also please take the time to note some things about how worship will work online:

Attendance – We would still like to gather an accurate account of who is worshipping with us for each service. Please let us know you are worshipping by commenting in the chat box. List your full name (first and last) in your message.

Chatting and discussing – Before and after each service, there is time available to chat with others. We invite you to do so, as this is a way we can preserve the sense of community we have on a normal Sunday morning. We do ask that you keep chatting to a minimum during the service, so that others can focus on what's happening.

Giving – Please continue to give your attention to the gifts God asks you to give to support his work. During the time of the offering, an encouragement will be given to give electronically. You can do so by clicking the menu icon (3 horizontal bars) in the upper left corner, next to where it says Cross of Glory Lutheran Church. Then click the word "Giving" to go to our Vanco page. You can also give by scanning the QR code in the bulletin with your phone's camera, or by mailing a check to us at 10111 W Jomax Rd, Peoria, AZ 85383. Thank you for your continued support during this difficult time!



God bless our time together in worship today!



On Ash Wednesday, we began our forty day journey to the cross, a journey of repentance and prayer, of remembrance and renewal of our baptism. Lent represents about 11% of the church year—why is it we focus that much time on this subject which represents a short period of time in Jesus's life? The answer is that the focus for Lent actually spans from the Garden of Eden and culminates in the empty tomb.

Each Sunday in Lent we will be asking an important question for Lent. This week we ask, “***Who's most important?***”. In our world, being first, being on top –serving ourselves is what is prized. In contrast, Jesus calls us from sinful selfishness to selfless service. We can view the world from the perspective of selfishness or selflessness. Selfishness puts self before all and leads to favoritism, pride and envy. Repentance, however, means despairing of self, trusting in Christ's substitutionary sacrifice and leading lives of selfless service modeled after our Savior who came not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for us.

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

Son of God, Eternal Savior (CW492) 4 Vs.

Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us, Honors all our human race,
You our head, who, throned in glory, For your own will ever plead:
Fill us with your love and pity; Heal our wrongs and help our need.
Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love and Prince of Peace;
Hush the storm of strife and passion; Bid its cruel discords cease.
By your patient years of toiling, By your silent hours of pain,
Quench our fevered thirst for pleasure; Stem our selfish greed for gain.
Bind us all as one together In your Church's sacred fold,
Weak and healthy, poor and wealthy, Sad and joyful, young and old.
Is there want or pain or sorrow? Make us all the burden share.
Are there spirits crushed and broken? Teach us, Lord, to soothe their care.
As you, Lord, have lived for others, So may we for others live.
Freely have your gifts been granted; Freely may your servants give.
Yours the gold and yours the silver, Yours the wealth of land and sea;
We but stewards of your bounty Held in solemn trust will be.

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

Romans 8:1-10

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ²because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. ³For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. ⁶The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. ⁸Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God. ⁹You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness.

PSALM 42-43

(Spoken Responsively; Sung Response LAP14 2 V.s.)

M: As the deer pants for streams of water,

C: So my soul pants for you, O God.

M: My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

C: Where can I go and meet with God?

M: Why are you downcast, O my soul?

C: Why so disturbed within me?

M: Put your hope in God,

C: For I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

M: Send forth your light and your truth, let them guide me;

C: Let them bring me to the place where you dwell.

M: Then will I go to the altar of God, my joy and my delight.

C: I will praise you with the harp, O God, my God.

Sung by Congregation:

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.

You alone are my heart's desire, And I long to worship you.

Refrain:

You alone are my strength, my shield, To you alone may my spirit yield.

You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

You're my friend, and you're my brother, Even though you are a King.

I love you more than any other, So much more than anything. [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

Matthew 20:17-28

Now Jesus was going up to Jerusalem. On the way, he took the Twelve aside and said to them, ¹⁸“We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death ¹⁹and will hand him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day he will be raised to life!” ²⁰Then the mother of Zebedee’s sons came to Jesus with her sons and, kneeling down, asked a favor of him. ²¹“What is it you want?” he asked. She said, “Grant that one of these two sons of mine may sit at your right and the other at your left in your kingdom.” ²²“You don’t know what you are asking,” Jesus said to them. “Can you drink the cup I am going to drink?” “We can,” they answered. ²³Jesus said to them, “You will indeed drink from my cup, but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared by my Father.” ²⁴When the ten heard about this, they were indignant with the two brothers. ²⁵Jesus called them together and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ²⁶Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ²⁷and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—
²⁸just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Lord of glory, you have bought us With your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice,
And with that have freely given Blessings countless as the sand
To th' unthankful and the evil With your own unsparing hand.

Wondrous honor you have given To our humblest charity
In your own mysterious sentence, "You have done it unto me."
Can it be, O gracious Master, That you need what we can do,
Saying by your poor and needy, "Give as I have giv'n to you"?

Yes, the sorrow and the suff'rings Which on ev'ry hand we view
Channels are for gifts and off'rings Due by solemn right to you.
Right of which we may not rob you, Debt we may not choose but pay
Lest that face of love and pity Turn from us another day.

Lord of glory, you have bought us With your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust you boldly, Hope, to stay our souls on you;
But, oh, best of all your graces, With your love our love renew.

SERMON

**Important Questions for Lent:
*Who's most important?****Genesis 37:1-11*

Jacob lived in the land where his father had stayed, the land of Canaan. ²This is the account of Jacob's family line. Joseph, a young man of seventeen, was tending the flocks with his brothers, the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives, and he brought their father a bad report about them. ³Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate robe for him. ⁴When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him. ⁵Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him all the more. ⁶He said to them, "Listen to this dream I had: ⁷We were binding sheaves of grain out in the field when suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around mine and bowed down to it." ⁸His brothers said to him, "Do you intend to reign over us? Will you actually rule us?" And they hated him all the more because of his dream and what he had said. ⁹Then he had another dream, and he told it to his brothers. "Listen," he said, "I had another dream, and this time the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me." ¹⁰When he told his father as well as his brothers, his father rebuked him and said, "What is this dream you had? Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and bow down to the ground before you?" ¹¹His brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.

(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

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery 4 Vs.

Soloist will sing Vs. 1 and congregation joins for Vs. 2-4

*Come behold the wondrous myst'ry In the dawning of the King
He the theme of heaven's praises Robed in frail humanity
In our longing, in our darkness Now the Light of Life has come
Look to Christ, Who condescended Took on flesh to ransom us.*

**Come behold the wondrous myst'ry He the perfect Son of Man
In his living, in His suff'ring Never trace nor stain of sin
See the true and better Adam Come to save the hell-bound man
Christ the great and sure fulfillment Of the law; in him we stand.**

**Come behold the wondrous myst'ry Christ the Lord upon the tree
In the stead of ruined sinners Hangs the Lamb in victory
See the price of our redemption See the Father's plan unfold
Bringing many sons to glory Grace unmeasured, love untold.**

**Come behold the wondrous myst'ry Slain by death the God of life
But no grave could e'er restrain him Praise the Lord; He is alive!
What a foretaste of deliv'rance How unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected As we will be when he comes.**

THE OFFERING AND OFFERING PRAYER

(USE THE CAMERA ON YOUR PHONE TO CAPTURE THE QR CODE FOR ONLINE GIVING)

(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

Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly (CW484) 3 Vs.

Brothers, sisters, let us gladly Give to God our all, our best --
Service hearty, thorough, honest, With a living love impressed.
All our duty, all our striving, All our time to him belong;
Praise him, then, with true devotion; Come before him with a song.

By his mercy, by his bounty, By the gift of Christ, his Son,
What great goodness he has shown us, What high marvels he has done!
Let us to him promptly, freely, Yield our bodies and our souls,
Thankful that his love protects us, That his wisdom all controls.

Gracious Lord, accept our service For the sake of Christ, your Son;
Lo, our hope abides now only In the righteousness he won.
Bless and save us; help and guide us; Watch to comfort and restore
Till in heav'n we rest rejoicing, Praising you forevermore.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

****Next Call meeting for a new Principal is scheduled for Today, March 22th, at 10:30 am. Please try to make it as this may be our last opportunity to call someone for next school year.

****Church Council will continue meeting on a weekly basis to assess our current worship practice. When it's safe for us together again we will do so.

****Pastor Ehlers is encouraging our Vistancia members to sign into Zoom so we can talk as a group at 8:30am Sunday morning and also a yet to be determined day during the week. Our Facebook live service will be Saturday evening at 6pm and can be watched anytime after that. Please comment who and when you are watching. Please continue your weekly giving by using Vanco or mail your offerings in. Pastor will try to post a video encouragement on a regular basis. The bulletin will be posted sometime before the service on either the website or on Facebook.

Jomax			
Jomax Worship Volunteers	March 22nd	March 29th	April 5th
Counters	Wempner	Wempner	Wempner

Growth Groups

**Pastor Ehlers-Timely Topics,
Timeless Truths**

Thursdays at 6:30 pm
Michael Wenniger's House
Will resume after Easter.

The God who saves me
Secreta Baptism
Close Communion

The world around me
Broke to Bankrupt

**Women's Bible Study- God the
Ultimate Humanitarian**

Tuesdays at 9:30 am
Karen Jurado's House

**Sunday Morning Bible Class-Timely Topics,
Timeless Truths (TBA)**

Sunday at 10:30 Jomax Campus

Mom's Group- Ally Kelley-Romans

Every Wednesday
(Online TBA)

Tim Grams - The Book Galatians

Wednesdays at 6:30 pm
4.15.2020-5.6.2020
Grams' House

**Pastor Freeman-
People of the Bible (Canceled)**

COG Golden Agers (Canceled for April)

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, sasse-ja43@aol.com or 602-618-6967.

THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

March 22nd 10:30am	Call Meeting (At Jomax)
March 24th 9:30am	Woman's Bible Study
March 25th 7:00pm	Lenten Service (Online)
March 25th 9:00am	Mom's Bible Study (Online)
March 27th 4:00pm	Youth Lock-in (Canceled)
March 28th 7:50am	Growth Group w/Pastor Freeman (Canceled)
March 28th	K-2 Track Meet (Postponed)
March 29th 9:00am	Worship Service (Online)

LOOKING AHEAD

March 31st	Track Meet at ALA (3-8) (Postponed)
March 31st 9:30am	Women's Bible Study
April 1st 9:00am	Mom's Bible Study (Online)
April 1st 7:00pm	Lenten Service (Online)
April 2nd 9:30am	Golden Agers Brunch (Canceled)
April 3rd	Talent Show (TBA)
April 4th	BCLAL South Mountain Track Meet (3-8)
April 5th 9:00am	Worship Service (Online)

ONE CHURCH....TWO LOCATIONS

JOMAX
CAMPUS - NEWS

VISTANCIA
CAMPUS - NEWS

Call Meeting (Jomax)

March 22nd 10:30am

Cross of Glory
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL



Call Meeting (Jomax)

March 22nd 10:30am

Youth Summer Opportunities

Cross of Glory's VBS Registration is now open. This years theme is Mystery Island, Tracking Down the One True God. Please Register at crossofglory.org. VBS is June 1st-5th.

A SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITY - GOOD SHEPHERD BIBLE CAMP

You may be interested in this opportunity for your kids to have some fun in a Christian summer camp in July. The camp is run by WELS congregations in California. Here is a little info about the camp:

For over 40 years, Good Shepherd Bible Camp (GSBC), has been providing the perfect blend of outdoor adventure and Christian fellowship to kids from 4th to 10th grade. It's a full week (6 nights/days) of fun in the California mountains during July. You'll experience the chance to have fun with old friends and make plenty of new ones while you apply God's word to your life.

Spend the week growing in your faith, while you also play countless games, eat amazing food, swim, canoe, become the perfect archer, sing exuberantly around a campfire, play basketball/volleyball and anything else involving a ball, run around in the infamous "gaga" pit, build forts, unleash your creative side in some arts and crafts, and of course explore God's beautiful creation through a little hiking.

If you'd like to take part in the camp, here are two things to do: 1) get the dates (July 12-18) on your calendar to include it in your summer plans, whether as a camper or as staff, and 2) start setting aside the funds to save up for it! Visit the new website for more information and find out why so many love GSBC:

www.goodshepherdbiblecamp.com.

Dear fellow servant of Christ,

Registration is now open for the 2020 WELS International Youth Rally!

The basics

The 2020 International Youth Rally will be held June 23-26 at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. The theme for the rally is "Vision 2020: Seeing Christ Clearly. Serving Christ Boldly." It's an opportunity for our WELS teens from around the country to come together to learn about and grow in their faith, enjoy fellowship, and participate in fun excursions.

Registration opens today and is \$375 per attendee through April 30. Registration from May 1–May 29 is \$395 per attendee.

If you are interested in either of these opportunities please contact Pastor Ehlers.

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.

Linda Stern, as she undergoes treatment for breast cancer.

Pastor and Maxine Freeman, who returned a call to Elkton, MI. Also dealing with the news that Pastor's brother has passed away and Maxine's sister-in-law suffered another stroke.

The Kugler Family, as they grieve the passing of Linda's mother, Lucille Manthe.

Sandy Taylor & Family, as they grieve the sudden lost of her brother.

Fran Fidel & Family, as she grieves the unexpected loss of her son.

Velta Larson, as she recovers from a recent fall.

Judy Sasse, as she undergoes radiation for cancer.

Glen Pedersen, the son-in-law of Don and Laurel Bollmeier, who was diagnosed with cancer.

Juanita Word, who is recovering at home after a broken leg.

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

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

MILITARY

E4 Specialist Alice Henderson, granddaughter of Larry and Faye Kennedy, at San Antonio, TX Ft. Sam Houston Army base in Medical Institute of Surgery Research: Burn Unit.

E6 Specialist Staff Sgt. Austin Seignious, grandson-to-be of Larry and Faye Kennedy, at El Paso, TX Ft. Bliss Army Base.

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.