

Important questions for

L E N T

Are you dead inside?

Lent 5

Sunday, March 29, 2020

FULL SCRIPT



Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School

623-224-8839

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 have been asking an important question for Lent. This week we ask, "**Are you dead inside?**". Without Christ, we know that answer is "yes". However, on our Lenten walk to Calvary, we see the Savior come face to face with death and defeat it completely and bring us back to life. Jesus, who is resurrection and life, has made us heirs of eternal life.

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 Worship and Praise

OPENING HYMN

There is a Redeemer (CWS747) 3 Vs.

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

Refrain:

Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son
and leaving Your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

Jesus, my Redeemer, Name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah; Hope for sinners slain. *[Refrain]*

When I stand in glory, I will see his face;
There I'll serve my King forever In that holy place. *[Refrain]*

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

Romans 8:11-19

And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you. ¹²Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ¹⁵The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “*Abba, Father.*” ¹⁶The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. ¹⁷Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. ¹⁸I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.

PSALM 130

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;

C: O LORD, hear my voice.

M: Let your ears be attentive

C: To my cry for mercy.

M: If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins,

C: O LORD, who could stand?

M: But with you there is forgiveness;

C: Therefore you are feared.

M: I wait for the LORD in his Word I put my hope.

C: My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning.

M: O, Israel, put your hope in the Lord,

C: For with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

GOSPEL LESSON

John 11:17-27,38-45

On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹ and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. ²¹ “Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.” ²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴ Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.” ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷ “Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.” ³⁸ Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹ “Take away the stone,” he said. “But, Lord,” said Martha, the sister of the dead man, “by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days.” ⁴⁰ Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.” ⁴³ When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes and let him go.” ⁴⁵ Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

SERMON HYMN

Chief of Sinners Though I Be (CW385) 4 V.S.

**Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed his blood for me,
Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine, I am his and he is mine!**

**Oh, the height of Jesus' love, Higher than the heav'ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea, Lasting as eternity,
Love that found me -- wondrous thought!-- Found me when I sought him not.**

**Chief of sinners though I be, Christ is all in all to me.
All my wants to him are known; All my sorrows are his own.
Safe with him in earthly strife, I await the heav'nly life.**

Strengthen me, O gracious Lord, By your Spirit and your word.
When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply While I live and when I die.

SERMON **Important Questions for Lent: *Are You Dead Inside?*** *Ezekiel 37:1-14*

The hand of the LORD was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. ³He asked me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” I said, “Sovereign LORD, you alone know.” ⁴Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones and say to them, ‘Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!’ ⁵This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. ⁶I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.” ⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.’” ¹⁰So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army. ¹¹Then he said to me: “Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.’ ¹²Therefore prophesy and say to them: ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³Then you, my people, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. ¹⁴I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD.’”

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

3rd ARTICLE OF THE APOSTLES' CREED *(Spoken Responsively)*

M: 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.

What does this mean?

C: I believe that I cannot by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him. But the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

M: In this Christian Church he daily and fully forgives all sins to me and all believers.

C: On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

 **SONG OF THE SEASON**

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery 4 Vs.
Ensemble 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
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.

During a time when we aren't regularly gathering at church for services, it may be easy to overlook our offerings to the Lord. We want to remind people of the need for continued giving throughout this crisis. We need to be realistic: our finances were not in good shape before this pandemic, and if giving decreases now we will be in an even worse situation. However, we also need to be optimistic: we know who our God is and what he is capable of. There is no need for worry or fear. Our God is not worried or afraid. He will continue to bless his people. With that in mind, here are ways you can continue to faithfully give of the blessings he has given you:

1. **Mail in a check.** For convenience' sake, here's the address: 10111 W. Jomax Rd, Peoria, AZ 85383. Please include your envelope number on the check (or include your offering envelope when you mail the check in).
Give online. You can do so through Vanco by following the Giving link on our website. You can even set up a profile so that you can give on an automatic basis. This link is also displayed during our online services. Look for the word "Giving" in the upper right corner of the page, or click on the "Notes" tab and click the "Giving" link there.
1. **Scan the QR code in the service folder.** You can scan the code with the camera on your phone, and it will also take you to our Vanco giving page. This QR code is now being included in our service folders which are downloadable during each online service. (It is not included here since a clickable link to the page is in #2 above.)

Thank you for giving your attention to this. Your support means we can continue to support you and others through the ministry our God has entrusted to us!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

****Last Sunday we called Adam Glodowski to be our principal next year. Adam is currently serving as principal and teaching 7th-8th Grade at Trinity Lutheran in Kiel, WI. Please keep him and his family in your prayers as he deliberates.

****New to the website is a page of spiritual and educational. Included are free Sunday School lessons for children.

**** Please check our website for the most up to date information regarding Cross of Glory and the coronavirus/ COVID-19.

**** Please visit our website, YouTube or Facebook Cross of Glory– Vistancia to view our online services at the normal service times throughout the coronavirus crisis. The Sunday service will be available at 9am every Sunday morning.

****We have canceled most of our Growth Groups for the moment. The Pastors will be having devotions on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for you to watch and share. These will be posted to our Facebook pages. This gives an opportunity to share God's message to others that we might not normally feel comfortable sharing. We also have switched to Zoom video conference calls for other groups. If you would like to join one you just contact the person that is setting up the call and we will text or email you the link.

Jomax			
Jomax Worship Volunteers	March 29th	April 5th	April 12th
Counters	Wempner	Wempner	Wempner

Growth Groups (Groups highlighted in Red are postponed for the moment)	
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**Pastor Ehlers-Timely Topics,
Timeless Truths**
Thursdays at 6:30 pm
Michael Wenniger's House
Will resume after Easter.

**Sunday Morning Bible Class-Timely Topics,
Timeless Truths (TBA)**
Sunday at 10:30 Jomax Campus

Tim Grams - The Book Galatians
Wednesdays at 6:30 pm
4.15.2020-5.6.2020
Grams' House

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 (Postponed)
Karen Jurado's House

Mom's Group- Ally Kelley-Romans
Every Wednesday 2:00pm Via Zoom

**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

April 1st 2:00pm	Mom's Growth Group (Via Zoom)
April 1st 7:00pm	Lenten Service (Online)
April 3rd	Talent Show (TBA)
April 4th 6:00pm	Facebook live Service Vistancia
April 5th 9:00am	Worship Service (Online)

LOOKING AHEAD

April 7th 6:00pm	Evangelism Meeting (Via Zoom)
April 7th 7:00pm	Elders Meeting (Via Zoom)
April 8th 2:00pm	Mom's Growth Group (Via Zoom)
April 9th 7:00pm	Maundy Thursday (Online)
April 10th 7:00pm	Good Friday (Online)
April 12th 9:00am	Easter Worship Service (Online) or (TBA)

ONE CHURCH....TWO LOCATIONS

JOMAX CAMPUS - NEWS

Mom's Bible Study (Via Zoom)
Wednesday April 1st, 2:00pm
(Please let Liz know if you would like to attend)



VISTANCIA CAMPUS - NEWS

Weekly Devotion (Via Zoom)
Sunday April 5th, 6:00pm
(Please Contact Pastor Ehlers if you are interested in attending)

Youth Summer Opportunities

Cross of Glory's VBS Registration is now open. This year's 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 loss 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.