



Victory!



Easter Festival Service
Sunday, April 12, 2020
Full Script



Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School

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www.crossofglory.org

Rev. John Ehlers, Pastor

Rev. Benjamin Foxen, Pastor

Jomax Campus

10111 W Jomax Road,
Peoria, AZ 85383

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Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School

*Blessed to be a
member of*



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.

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!

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! The theme for our Lent series this year was "The Son of God Goes Forth to War." The weekly Wednesday themes focused on our Savior Jesus as the warrior who fights and defeats sin, death, and Satan. Each service focused on an aspect of our Savior-warrior as he is promised to us, fights our enemies for us, and triumphs over them for us. Today we end this series with a celebration of Jesus's victory—a victory through which God's infinite grace and mercy—becomes our eternal victory!



Easter Festival Service

EASTER ACCLAMATION

(Spoken Responsively)

M: People of God – Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

M: I will not die, but live,

C: And proclaim what the Lord has done!

M: This is the day the Lord has made.

C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

M: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

OPENING HYMN

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia (CWS719) 4 Vs.

Alleluia Banner is processed into the church

Christ has arisen, alleluia. Rejoice and praise Him, alleluia.

For our Redeemer burst from the tomb, Even from death, dispelling its gloom.

Refrain:

Let us sing praise to Him with endless joy;

Death's fearful sting He has come to destroy.

Our sins forgiving, Alleluia! Jesus is living, Alleluia!

For three long days the grave did its worst until its strength by God was dispersed

He who gives life did death undergo;

and in its conquest His might did show. [Refrain]

The angel said to them, "Do not fear! You look for Jesus who is not here

See for yourselves the tomb is all bare;

only the grave cloths are lying there. [Refrain]

"Go spread the news: He's not in the grave He has arisen this world to save.

Jesus' redeeming labors are done even the battle with sin is won. [Refrain]

CONFESSION OF SINS

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Upon the hill the cross now stands empty. Morning light breaks upon the tomb. As we come before our God and King, let us confess our sins.

C: Lord God, I humbly come before you. I confess that I am sinful in thought, word, and deed. I daily fail to do what you command, and continually do what you forbid. Lord, I am sorry for my sins. I believe that for the sake of my Lord Jesus Christ, you will have mercy on me.

M: Upon this your sincere confession, by Christ's command and authority, I assure you that

your sins are all forgiven. The vacant cross and the empty grave are God's signs to you that he has accepted the sacrifice of his one and only Son. Whoever believes this simple truth of Scripture has eternal life. The Lord is gracious and righteous!

C: When I was in great need, he saved me.

M: The Lord is my strength and my song;

C: He has become my salvation.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

(This is the Feast of Victory (CW265) 4 Vs.

Minister sings 1st Refrain and Verses, Congregation sings the following refrains)

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

Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. [Refrain]

Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are his. [Refrain]

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation. [Refrain]

For the Lamb who was slain Has begun his reign. Alleluia! [Refrain]

PRAYER OF THE DAY

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through baptism, may walk in the newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit be dominion and praise now and forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Jonah 2:2-9

“In my distress I called to the LORD, and he answered me. From deep in the realm of the dead I called for help, and you listened to my cry. ³ You hurled me into the depths, into the very heart of the seas, and the currents swirled about me; all your waves and breakers swept over me. ⁴ I said, ‘I have been banished from your sight; yet I will look again toward your holy temple.’ ⁵ The engulfing waters threatened me, the deep surrounded me; seaweed was wrapped around my head. ⁶ To the roots of the mountains I sank down; the earth beneath barred me in forever. But you, LORD my God, brought my life up from the pit. ⁷ “When my life was ebbing away, I remembered you, LORD, and my prayer rose to you, to your holy temple. ⁸ “Those who cling to worthless idols turn away from God’s love for them. ⁹ But I, with shouts of grateful praise, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. I will say, ‘Salvation comes from the LORD.’”

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

VERSE OF THE DAY

(Spoken by Minister; Response Sung by Congregation)

M: Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia. (*Psalm 118:24*)

Sung by Congregation:

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

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 28:1-10

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. ²There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. ⁴The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. ⁵The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you." ⁸So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

 **SERMON HYMN** **Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won** (*CW145*) 4 *Vs.*

Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won! Death no longer can appall me.
Jesus lives! Death's reign is done! From the grave Christ will recall me.
Brighter scenes will then commence; This shall be my confidence.
Jesus lives! To him the throne High o'er heav'n and earth is given.
I shall go where he is gone, Live and reign with him in heaven.
God is faithful; doubtings, hence! This shall be my confidence.
Jesus lives! I know full well Nothing me from him shall sever,
Life nor death nor pow'rs of hell Part me now from Christ forever.
God will be a sure defense; This shall be my confidence.
Jesus lives! And now is death But the gate to life immortal;
This shall calm my trembling breath When I pass its gloomy portal.
Faith shall cry, as fails each sense: "Jesus is my confidence!"

SERMON

Victory!

Revelation 19:11-16

I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. ¹²His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. ¹³He is

dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. ¹⁴The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. “He will rule them with an iron scepter.” He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. ¹⁶On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

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.

HYMN

His Battle Ended There (CW146) 4 Vs.

Ensemble will sing the Vs. 1-3 and congregation will join on the refrains and Vs. 4

His battle ended there, death was overcome. Jesus, alive again, wore the victor's crown.

Clearly sin had failed; Goodness had prevailed. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dread pow'rs of death and sin had him in their hold. When Jesus rose again all their plans were foiled. Jesus lived again, Triumphed over sin. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dead in the grave he lay, mourned by ev'ry friend. Those dark and fearful days then did reach their end. God raised him to life, Victor in the strife. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

He burst the chains of sin, opened death's dark jail.

God filled him with new life, life that could not fail.

Right before their eyes Jesus did arise.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE OFFERING AND OFFERING PRAYER

(Spoken by Minister)

(PLEASE SCAN QR CODE WITH PHONE TO MAKE AN ONLINE DONATION)



THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Heavenly Father, God of grace, you have brought us into a new and living hope by the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

C: Christ is risen!

M: For as in Adam all died, so in Christ all will be made alive.

C: He is risen indeed!

M: He was delivered over to death for our sins and raised to life for our justification.

C: Alleluia!

M: We marvel at the love you showed by your willingness to sacrifice your Son to pay for our sins; we bow down in adoration at your mighty power, which raised him from the dead.

C: We praise you for sending the true Life and Light into the world.

M: Lord Jesus, God of grace, you have filled our hearts with resurrection joy by your victory over sin, death, and the grave.

C: You have conquered the darkness and given us comfort and hope.

M: With the Church of every age, we offer you unending praise, for you have crushed Satan's head and have removed our guilt.

C: You are risen!

M: Dear Savior, we who are weary and burdened come to you for rest, knowing that because of your perfect redemption there is now no condemnation for us.

C: You are risen indeed!

M: Take away our doubts and fears, and daily renew in us the joy of our salvation.

C: Alleluia!

M: Holy Spirit, God of grace, you have called us by the gospel and brought us to saving faith in our risen Lord.

C: We glorify you for opening our eyes to see the light of life.

M: Keep us with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

C: He is risen!

M: As we journey through life, make us yearn for the day when you will give eternal life to us and all believers in Christ.

C: He is risen indeed!

Special prayers and intercessions may be offered here.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Work through us as we proclaim the saving message of the crucified and risen Jesus near and far, so that many others may hear your call, obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus,

and join us before the throne of our God and of the Lamb.

C: Alleluia! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Alleluia! Amen.

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

Jesus Christ is Risen Today (CW157) 4 Vs.

Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!

Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heav'nly King, Alleluia!

Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! Our salvation has procured, Alleluia!

Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as his love, Alleluia!

Praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!

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 (*Vide*o).

Announcements

There will be a special Easter service at 4pm Arizona time on Easter Sunday. President Schroeder will lead the service, and Professor Earle Treptow, president of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, will preach the message. The theme of the service will be "Together at the Empty Tomb." Enter <https://livestream.com/wslive/togetherattheemptytomb> to go to that service at the proper time.

We encourage all our members to take part in this event. What an opportunity to celebrate our unity in faith even while we are forced to be physically apart!

****The time for our regularly scheduled quarterly voters' meeting is coming up. It will be held on April 19, the Sunday after Easter, at 10:30am. The church and school budgets will be the main topics of discussion. For now, please mark your calendars for this important event. How the meeting will be held is still under discussion, so stay tuned on that.

****New to the website is a page of spiritual and educational [resources](#). Included are free Sunday School lessons for children.

**** New Secretary office hours! Elizabeth Simkauskas will be in the office Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9-2 and will also be available by phone during normal office hours as calls are forwarded. If you need to get in the office at a different time please call and let me know and I will coordinate with you. I am sorry if this is inconvenient. This is temporary as schools are closed for the rest of the school year and is subject to change.

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

**** Go to crossofglory.online.church to view our online services at the normal service times throughout the coronavirus crisis. The Sunday service will be available at 9am on Sunday morning.

New Bible Study Opportunity

What's the biggest problem in the world? If we took a poll, I'm sure we'd hear a lot of different answers. I wonder how many people would answer by saying, "me." It's very easy to see the problems out there in the world and place blame at others' feet for all the things that go wrong. It's a rare thing when someone puts the blame at their own feet. That's sinful human nature. That's the sinful human ego. It thinks only about how to make itself look better in others' eyes.

What if things were different? What if people could quiet their egos and not worry so much about self? What if our first thoughts were always of others? That would be revolutionary. That would be world-changing. That would be... Christ-like. Join us on **Thursdays at 7:00pm, starting April 16th** as we take a look at Tim Keller's book, "The Freedom of Self-Forgetfulness." As we discuss this short booklet, we'll have a chance to analyze our own tendencies to stroke our ego. We'll also see God's solution to it all, and what that solution enables us to do.

You're encouraged to purchase and read the book for yourself (it's very short—you can finish it in one sitting). It's available for \$5 new on Amazon. You can also find copies for cheaper than that. Feel free to join in without the book, too!

You can join the Zoom meeting with the info below:

Meeting ID: 474 775 761

Password: 007970

Jomax			
Jomax Worship Volunteers	April 12th	April 19th	April 26th
Counters	Wempner	Wempner	Wempner

ONE CHURCH....TWO LOCATIONS

JOMAX
CAMPUS - NEWS

VISTANCIA
CAMPUS - NEWS

Mom's Bible Study (Via Zoom)
Wednesday April 15th, 2:00pm
(Please let Liz know if you would like to attend)



Weekly Devotion (Via Zoom)
Sunday April 12th 6:00pm
(Please Contact Pastor Ehlers if you are interested in attending)

THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

April 8th 2:00pm	Mom's Bible Study (Via Zoom)
April 9th 8:00am– 9:00pm	Communion
April 9th 7:00pm	Maundy Thursday Service (Online)
April 10th 7:00pm	Good Friday Service (Online)
April 12th 9:00am	Easter Service (Online)
April 12th 4:00pm	Easter Synod Message (Online)
April 12th 6:00pm	Devotion Pastor Ehlers (Via Zoom)

LOOKING AHEAD

April 15th 2:00pm	Mom's Bible Study (Via Zoom)
April 15th 6:30pm	Growth Group Pastor Ehlers (Via Zoom)
April 18th 6:00pm	Vistancia Facebook Live Service
April 19th 9:00am	Worship Service(Online)
April 19th 10:30	Voters Meeting
April 19th 6:00pm	Devotion Pastor Ehlers (Via Zoom)

Growth Groups

Vistancia Weekly Devotion

Sundays 6:00 pm via ZOOM

(if interested in joining contact Pastor Ehlers)

Pastor Ehlers-Timely Topics, Timeless Truths

Wednesday 6:30pm via ZOOM
(Will resume after Easter)

Thursday Evening Bible Study

Thursdays at 7:00 pm via ZOOM

Meeting ID: 474 775 761
Password: 007970.

Mom's Group- Ally Kelley

Every Wednesday at 2:00 pm Via Zoom
(Please contact Liz if you want to be added to this conference)

Youth Summer Opportunities

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 things to do: 1) get 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.

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.

April Johnson, who is in hospice care and is getting ready to meet her Savior.

Linda Stern, as she undergoes treatment for breast cancer.

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.

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.

Saturday Worship at 6:00 am (Jomax)
Sunday Worship at 9:00am (Jomax) 9:30am (Vistancia)
Bible Study Session 10:30am (Jomax)