



Easter 5
Sunday, May 10, 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.

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!



I am the way, the truth, and the life. Christ's message is so exclusive that it rejects all others. There is only one way to the Father, and that way is a person. He does not say, 'I show you the way,' like a second Moses, but I **am** the way. Nor 'I have the truth,' like another Elijah, but I **am** the truth. Not only 'I lead unto life,' as one of his apostles, but I **am** the life.

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Service of Worship and Praise

OPENING HYMN

You Are the Way; through You Alone (CW356) 4 V/s.

You are the way; through you alone Can we the Father find;
In you, O Christ, has God revealed His heart and will and mind.

You are the truth; your Word alone True wisdom can impart.
You only can inform the mind And purify the heart.

You are the life; the empty tomb Proclaims your conqu'ring arm,
And those who put their trust in you Not death nor hell shall harm.

You are the way, the truth, the life; Grant us that way to know,
That truth to keep, that life to win Whose joys eternal flow.

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

Acts 4:8-12

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: “Rulers and elders of the people! ⁹If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, ¹⁰then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. ¹¹Jesus is “the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.’ ¹²Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

PSALM 118

(Spoken Responsively)

M: The LORD is my strength and my song;

C: He has become my salvation.

M: The LORD’s right hand is lifted high;

C: The LORD’s right hand has done mighty things!

M: I will not die but live,

C: And will proclaim what the LORD has done.

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

C: You have become my salvation.

M: The stone the builder rejected has become the capstone;

C: The LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

M: This is the day the LORD has made;

C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 2:4-10

As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” ⁷ Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” ⁸ and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for. ⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

SERMON HYMN

Do Not Let Your Hearts be Troubled CWS759) 3 Vs.

Ensemble will sing the verses and the congregation will sing the verses.

Refrain:

**Do not let your hearts be troubled; have faith in God and faith in me.
I will go forth to prepare a place for you;
then I'll come back to take you within me, that where I am, you may also be.**

In God's house there are many places For you alone to dwell in safety

You know the way to where I'll lead you;

If you are lost, I will show the way. [Refrain]

I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life; Only through me can you know what I know.

If you knew me, you would know the Father;

If you see me, you see your God. [Refrain]

The words I speak are not only of my self; It is your God who lives with me

If you believe that your God and I are one,

I will provide when you call my name. [Refrain]

SERMON

He lives to be the only Way to heaven

John 14:1-11

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. ² My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do

know him and have seen him.”⁸ Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”⁹ Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”¹⁰ Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work.¹¹ Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves.

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

His Mercy is More 3 Vs.

**What love could remember no wrongs we have done;
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum;
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore;
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.**

Refrain:

**Praise the Lord His mercy is more Stronger than darkness, new every morn
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.**

**What patience would wait as we constantly roam,
What Father, so tender, is calling us home.
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor,
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more. [Refrain]**

**What riches of kindness he lavished on us,
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford;**

Our sins they are many, His mercy is more. [Refrain]

THE OFFERING AND OFFERING PRAYER

(Spoken by Minister)

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



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.

 **CLOSING HYMN**

I Know that My Redeemer Lives (CW152) 2 Vs.

**He lives triumphant from the grave; He lives eternally to save.
He lives all-glorious in the sky; He lives exalted there on high.
He lives and grants me daily breath; He lives, and I shall conquer death.
He lives my mansion to prepare; He lives to bring me safely there.**

Upcoming Voters' Meeting

Due to COVID-19, the church council has decided that it will postpone our regular April voters' meeting. The tentative plan is to hold the meeting on May 17, in the hope that President Trump lifts the federal restrictions on public gatherings which are currently set to expire at the end of April. The church and school budgets will be the main topics of discussion, as well as possible call for principal. Thank you for making this meeting a priority!

Informational Meeting

Thank you all that joined us for the informational meeting. There are a few bugs to get out but overall it went very smoothly. Those who attended either in person or via Zoom should have received a couple follow-up emails yesterday. Please respond to the survey that was sent to share your feedback.

We will be having one more informational meeting on May 10th. For those who are comfortable coming to church for the meeting, we will spread family units throughout the sanctuary so that there is 6 feet of distance between them. We will continue to observe social distancing while in attendance. This is as much for the comfort and safety of others as it is for our own safety. We want you to be aware that we are taking these things into account as we plan this important meeting. Zoom will be a secondary option as well. This should enable people to watch and listen from home and even ask questions. The Zoom link will be shared later this week. Thank you for making your attendance at this meeting a priority, as we need everyone's input about the future direction of our congregation and its ministry as we go forward! Please sign-up [here](#) to attend if you haven't already done so.

THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

May 13th 2:00pm	Mom's Bible Study (Via Zoom)
May 13th 6:30pm	Growth Group Pastor Ehlers (Via Zoom)
May 14th 6:30pm	Church Council Meeting
May 14th 7:00pm	Bible Study– Pastor Foxen
May 15th 8:30am	Closing Service & LES Graduation
May 15th 6:30pm	Virtual Talent Show
May 16th 6:00pm	Vistancia Facebook Live Service
May 17th 9:00am	Worship Service (Online)
May 17th 10:30am	Voters Meeting
May 17th 6:00pm	Devotion Pastor Ehlers (Via Zoom)

LOOKING AHEAD

May 20th 2:00pm	Mom's Bible Study (Via Zoom)
May 20th 6:30pm	Growth Group Pastor Ehlers (Via Zoom)
May 21st	Last Day Preschool
May 21th 7:00pm	Bible Study– Pastor Foxen
May 23rd 6:00pm	Vistancia Facebook Live Service
May 24th 9:00am	Worship Service(Online)
May 24th 6:00pm	Devotion Pastor Ehlers (Via Zoom)

Announcements

****"Used Meditations for the WELS Prison Ministry" When you pick up your next quarter Meditations, drop off your used copy from the last quarter. There is a box next to the new Meditations. The WELS Prison Ministry appreciates this donation and distributes Meditations to prisoners who are always anxious to receive them. Meditations have arrived, if you are interested in getting one please come Monday, Wednesday or Friday during office hours or contact Secretary for other arrangements. If needed she can mail it to you.

****Are you or anyone you know in need of meal delivery at this time? If so, please contact us at the office to let us know. We have a member who would like to be of help to you.

****We are adapting and have many ways to learn about our Savior. The Pastors will have Facebook on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for you to watch and share.gives an opportunity to share God's message to others that we know as well.

****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 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 web page 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.

Using Your Stimulus Check to God's Glory

Many are suffering right now. Many have lost jobs. Many are trying to come to terms with life as it now is. It hasn't been easy.

Into situations like this God comes with his power and grace to provide, restore, and give peace. It's a blessing that, at a time of uncertainty, many have received financial help in the form of the stimulus check from our government.

At the same time, some have found themselves thinking, "Why am I getting all this money? I haven't lost my job, and there's no real needs for me and my family beyond what's normal."

Here's a good answer to that question: God is giving you an opportunity. It's an opportunity to represent him in the world and give him honor and glory. And really, isn't that the same reason he gives us any of the things we have? It's all to his glory.

Please, take the time to consider how this latest gift from God can be used to his glory. There are countless ways that this could be done. It may be that there are great needs in your home, and God is certainly glorified when you use money to provide for those needs. But if the needs are not so great at home, how might you use that money outside of your home to bring God glory? Maybe now is the perfect time to use your resources to help out a neighbor. Such an act of love could quickly lead to spiritual conversations and the salvation of souls. Another idea would be to support your congregation with an additional gift in proportion to what you've been given. Such a gift would certainly go far in our current church budget deficit and at a time when our school has lost tuition income due to some student withdrawals. Isn't it interesting that we've been praying for God to help us with this situation, and all of a sudden he drops all this money into individual Christians' laps?

There are many ways God's people may decide to use these gifts to bring him glory. It's rather awe-inspiring to think about, really. Rejoice in the opportunity God has given you to wrestle with this! Get those Spirit-infused wheels turning in your heads about how you can glorify God with this gift. We Christians have been given a great opportunity to do good in the world around us with this gift. May God fill us all with his Spirit and give us joy as we work to do that!

-Pastor Foxen

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.

Growth Groups

Vistancia Weekly Devotion

Sundays 6:00 pm via ZOOM

(if interested in joining contact Pastor Ehlers)

Thursday Evening Bible Study

Thursdays at 7:00 pm via ZOOM

Meeting ID: 474 775 761

Password: 007970.

Pastor Ehlers-Timely Topics, Timeless

Truths

Wednesday 6:30pm via ZOOM

(Will resume after Easter)

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)

ONE CHURCH....TWO LOCATIONS

JOMAX CAMPUS - NEWS

VISTANCIA CAMPUS - NEWS

Mom's Bible Study (Via Zoom)

Wednesday May 13th, 2:00pm
(Please let Liz know if you would like to attend)

Informational Meeting

Sunday May 10th, 11:00am
(Please See Email for details)

Voters Meeting

Sunday, May 17th, 10:30am



Weekly Devotion (Via Zoom)

Sunday May 3rd, 6:00pm
(Please Contact Pastor Ehlers if you are interested in attending)

Informational Meeting

Sunday May 10th, 11:00am
(Please See Email for details)

Voters Meeting

Sunday, May 17th, 10:30am

COG Talent Show

The Show must go on!! On May 15th Cross of Glory will be hosting a Virtual Talent Show, starting at 6:30pm. We have three weeks to showtime. The basic idea is this: we'll host a Zoom meeting and share the link with all of you. Everyone can join to watch people perform their various talents and, if they want, perform themselves. If you prefer, you can also submit a video of your talent, and we'll play it for everyone during the virtual show. So get your talents ready! Whether it's singing, dancing, playing an instrument, doing magic tricks, beating the Mona Lisa at a staring contest, or anything else, we want to see your talent on May 15th. To sign up please contact Liz or signup via SignUpGenius.

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's Family**, as they grieve the loss of her.*

***Linda Stern**, as she undergoes treatment for breast 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.*

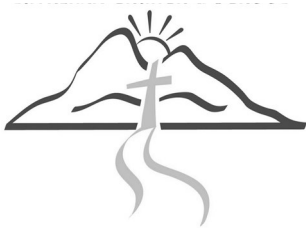
***E6 Specialist Staff Sgt. Austin Seignious**, grandson-to-be of Larry and Faye Kennedy, at El Paso, TX Ft. Bliss Army Base.*

***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.