



OUR SAVIOR IS PREPARED FOR HIS MISSION

Isaiah 49:1-6

Epiphany 1
Sunday, January 10, 2021
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!



On the surface the ministry that Jesus began at his baptism appears to be an exercise in futility. But just as the Father said at his baptism, God was well pleased with his Son. That work therefore would be blessed richly, even though few realize or see it. Yes, although on the surface this son of Nazareth seemed unprepared for the mission God had set forth for him, as the Son of God, he was uniquely prepared to bring salvation to the world God so dearly loved.

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

On Jordan's Bank The Baptist's Cry | CW16 4 Vs.

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Come, then, and listen, for he brings Good news about the King of kings.
Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin And furnished for a guest within,
And let us all our hearts prepare For Christ to come and enter there.
We hail you as our Savior, Lord, Our refuge and our great reward.
Without your grace we waste away Like flow'rs that wither and decay.
Stretch forth your hand, our health restore, And lift us up to fall no more.
Oh, make your face on us to shine, And fill the world with love divine.

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 6:1-11

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? ²By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? ³Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. ⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— ⁷because anyone who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

PSALM 2

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Why do the nations conspire?

C: And the peoples plot in vain?

M: The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD

C: And against his Anointed One.

M: The One enthroned in heaven laughs;

C: The Lord scoffs at them.

M: Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,

C: "I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill."

M: I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:

C: He said to me, "You are my Son: today I have become your Father."

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 1:4-11

And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. ⁶John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." ⁹At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

SERMON HYMN

Rise, O Light of Gentile Nations | *CW577—Melody: CW353 4 Vs.*

**Rise, O Light of Gentile nations, Jesus, bright and Morning Star;
Let your Word, the gladsome tidings, ring out loudly near and far,
Bringing freedom to the captives, peace and comfort to the slave,
That the heathen, free from bondage, may proclaim your pow'r to save.**

**Knowing you and your salvation, grateful love dare never cease
To proclaim your tender mercies, gracious Lord, your heav'nly peace.
Let us sound the gospel tidings to the earth's remotest bound
That the sinner has been pardoned and forgiveness can be found.**

**May our zeal to help the heathen be increased from day to day,
As we plead in true compassion and for their conversion pray.
For the many faithful workers, for the gospel they proclaim,
Let us all be cheerful givers to the glory of your name.**

**Savior, shine in all your glory on the nations near and far;
From the highways and the byways call them forth, O Morning Star.
Guide them whom your grace has chosen out of Satan's dreadful thrill
To the mansions of your father there is room for sinners all.**

SERMON

Our Savior is Prepared for His Mission

Isaiah 49:1-6

Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations: Before I was born the LORD called me; from my mother's womb he has spoken my name. ²He made my mouth like a sharpened sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me into a polished arrow and concealed me in his quiver. ³He said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will display my splendor." ⁴But I

said, “I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing at all. Yet what is due me is in the LORD’s hand, and my reward is with my God.” ⁵ And now the LORD says— he who formed me in the womb to be his servant to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself, for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD and my God has been my strength— ⁶ he says: “It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.”

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

THE 2nd Article OF THE APOSTLE’S CREED

(Read Responsively)

M: 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.

C: **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.**

M: What does this mean?

C: **I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.**

M: He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

C: **All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true.**

SONG OF THE SEASON

Sing We the Song of Emmanuel | 3 V.s.

Sing we the song of Emmanuel; This the Christ who was long foretold.

Lo in the shadows of Bethlehem, Promise of dawn now our eyes behold.

God Most High in a manger laid; Lift your voices and now proclaim:

Great and glorious, Love has come to us; Join now with the hosts of heaven.

Come we to welcome; Emmanuel King who came with no crown or throne.

Helpless He lay, the Invincible, Maker of Mary, now Mary’s son.

O what wisdom to save us all, Shepherds, sages, before Him fall.

Grace and majesty, what humility; Come on bended knee, adore Him.

Go spread the news of Emmanuel; Joy and peace for the weary heart.

Lift up your heads, for your King has come; Sing for the Light overwhelms the dark.

Glory shining for all to see, Hope alive, let the gospel ring.
God has made a way, He will have the praise; Tell the world His name is Jesus.

THE OFFERING AND OFFERING PRAYER

(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.

 **CLOSING HYMN**

Shine, Jesus Shine | LAP270 3 Vs.

**Lord, the light of your love is shining, In the midst of the darkness shining.
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us; Set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, Shine on me!
Shine Jesus shine! Fill this land with the Father's glory, Blaze, Spirit, blaze!
Set our hearts on fire, Flow, river flow! Flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!**

**Lord, I come to your awesome presence, From the shadows into your radiance.
By the blood I may enter your brightness;
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, Shine on me!
Shine Jesus shine! Fill this land with the Father's glory, Blaze, Spirit, blaze!
Set our hearts on fire, Flow, river flow! Flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!**

**As we gaze on your kingly brightness, So our faces display your likeness.
Ever changing from glory to glory.**

Mirrored here, may our lives tell your story.

Shine on me, Shine on me!

Shine Jesus shine! Fill this land with the Father's glory, Blaze, Spirit, blaze!

Set our hearts on fire, Flow, river flow! Flood the nations with grace and mercy.

Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

Growth Groups

Pastor Foxen's Growth Group

New Series about Jesus - "The Chosen"

Time & Location TBA

Contact Pastor Foxen or Office

New River Growth Group

The Gospel of Matthew

2nd and 4th Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

Location: New River Kiwanis Park, New River

Contact Pastor John Ehlers

Grams Group

Topic Pending (will resume mid-January)

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Location: Sun City West

Contact Tim and Brenda Grams

Women's Bible Study

"Full Accessories of God: The Spirit's Makeover for Women"

Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. (resumes study January 12)

Location: West Olive Avenue, Peoria

Contact Karen Jurado

Vistancia Weekly Devotion (Zoom only)

Sundays at 7:00 p.m.

Contact Pastor John Ehlers

Mom's Group (Zoom only)

Romans (will resume in January)

Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.

Contact Ally Kelley

Communion Set-up

We are looking for volunteers to help on the communion set-up rotation. If you are interested in helping please contact Lynn Wempner.

Call News

It was previously announced that Mrs. Rachel Severeid has made the decision to accept the call Emmanuel had extended to her to teach 3rd grade at their school. We will be sad to see her go, but we are grateful for the time we have left with her!

Over the break, our congregation called Stacey Aguilar to be our new 3rd-4th grade teacher, and I'm happy to be able to tell you that she has already accepted! Stacey is the wife of our new principal, Drew, and is currently teaching a classroom of K-4th graders at Concord Lutheran Academy in Temecula, CA.

We look forward to welcoming the Aguilars when they move over the summer!

From Mrs. Stacey Aguilar:

I graduated from Martin Luther College in 1996. I was blessed to serve as a teacher's aid in Sleepy Eye, MN while my husband Andrew finished school at MLC. I taught Kindergarten on and off while raising our family of 5 children. For the past 6 years, I have been teaching Kindergarten through 4th grade at Concord Lutheran Academy in Temecula, CA.

I enjoy spending time with my family and friends and reading a good book. I strive to help children love reading as much as I do. I look forward to joining the ministry team at Cross of Glory to further spreading the Gospel to God's little lambs.



Women's Bible Study

The women's Bible study group completed the study of "In God's Orchard: Cultivating the Fruit of a Spirit-Filled Life." If you are interested in doing the study on your own or would like to give the book as a gift, you may contact Liz in the church office to purchase one for \$12.

Cross of Glory Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for 2021 are now available. They may be picked up at the Jomax facility from your mailbox in the hallway entrance to the sanctuary of the church. This year, for those who have been consistently using the on-line VANCO system for their giving, a box of envelopes has not been issued since it is assumed that you will continue to use the VANCO system. If at any time you would like to go back to the use of envelopes for your offering, please let our Financial Secretary know (john.kull@cox.net or 858-395-5666), and a box of envelopes will be placed in your mailbox. Thank you for your continued support of our mission at Cross of Glory!

Enrollment News

Early Enrollment for 21-22 Begins on January 19

It's almost time to reserve your spot for the next school year! Current school families as well as those in our congregation will have a chance to enroll before we open enrollment to the public at large. Open enrollment will begin on February 1. Here is a link to our updated [tuition and fee schedule](#).

Rates are increasing for next year, but there are exciting reasons for this!

1. Our new principal, who will lead our school into the future and make it possible for us to offer a 5th-6th grade classroom as well as a 7th-8th grade classroom.
2. Extra part-time staff to enable us to departmentalize, which means offering more instructional opportunities for our students.
3. Our building project, improving our facilities and beautifying our campus.

We treasure the opportunity and privilege to serve you and your children!

Drum Lessons

Are you interested in playing the drums? Jay Collins is offering Drum Lessons for \$20 a half-hour for adults, children 5 and up. If interested please contact Jay. (623)312-5347

Thrivent T-Shirts

Please contact Liz with your size if you desire a Thrivent T-shirt, and she will put one in your box in the communication entryway. Contact her at cog.secretary@crossofglory.org

THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

January 11th 6:30 pm	New River Growth Group
January 12th 9:30am	Women's Bible Study
January 12th 6:30 pm	Church Council Meeting
January 13th 10:00 am	Mom's Growth Group
January 14th 4:00 pm	Catechism Study Hall
January 14th 5:00 pm	Catechism
January 16th 6:00 pm	Worship Service (Jomax)
January 16th 6:00 pm	Worship Service Facebook Live
January 17th 9:00 am	Worship Service (Jomax)
January 17th 9:00 am	Worship Service Online
January 17th 10:30 am	Sunday Bible Study
January 17th 7:00 pm	Vistancia Zoom Devotion

LOOKING AHEAD

January 18th	No School-MLK Jr. Day
January 19th	Early Enrollment
January 19th 9:30am	Women's Bible Study
January 20th 10:00 am	Mom's Growth Group
January 21st 4:00 pm	Catechism Study Hall
January 21st 5:00 pm	Catechism
January 23rd 6:00 pm	Worship Service (Jomax)
January 23rd 6:00 pm	Worship Service Facebook Live
January 24th	Christian Education Sunday
January 24th 9:00 am	Worship Service (Jomax)
January 24th 9:00 am	Worship Service Online
January 24th 10:30 am	Sunday Bible Study
January 24th 7:00 pm	Vistancia Zoom Devotion

Jomax Worship Volunteers	January 17th	January 24th	January 31st
Counters	Wempner/ Freeman	Wempner/ Sasse	Wempner/ Brooks
Cleaners	Martins/Ehlers	Simkauskas/ Pappenfuss	Patterson
Communion Set-up	Lynn Wempner	-	-
Ushers	Verl Naber Al Alcoba Rich Kugler Kelly Simpson	Bill Brooks Brian Ehinger Jake Ehinger Trey Ehinger	Gary Jeffers John Wempner Aaron Gullerud

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.

Marilyn Bagwell, sister of Sharon Kull, was recently diagnosed with cancer. May the Holy Spirit continue working in her heart and protect and care for her and perhaps cure her if that is his will.

Juanita Word, who is recovering at home after a fall.

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.

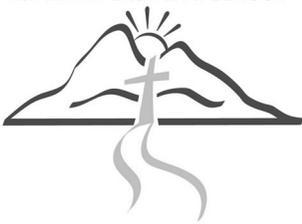
E6 Specialist Staff Sgt. Austin Seignious, grandson-to-be of Larry and Faye Kennedy, at El Paso, TX Ft. Bliss Army Base.

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.