

Jesus' Glory Compels Us to Follow

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Education Sunday Sunday, January 24, 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 worshiping 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 worshiping with us for each service. Please let us know you are worshiping 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!



God makes a habit of calling the unfit and the unworthy! He does it to magnify the power of the gospel and show that salvation can only be a gift of God, never a work of man or even a cooperative venture between God and man. No more unfit workman could there have been than Jonah. No city deserved destruction more than Nineveh. But God called both to repentance and showed the power of his Word in giving grace to both according to his good pleasure.

Today is **Education Sunday** when we celebrate the blessings of this vital ministry for our congregation and community. Cross of Glory Lutheran School exists to equip children with the power of God's Word and academic excellence. Cross of Glory seeks to produce students who are strong in God's Word, who are prepared for life eternal, and who are able to apply their education toward serving their Savior in any walk of life. We thank God for the opportunity serve our community's children with Christian education.

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Service of Scripture and Song

GATHERING RITE ON HOLY BAPTISM

God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It | CWS737

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Sung by Congregation:

God's own child, I gladly say it: I am baptized into Christ!

He, because I could not pay it, gave my full redemption price.

Do I need earth's treasures many? I have one worth more than any

That brought me salvation free lasting to eternity!

M: I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

C: Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. (John 3:5,6)

M: Surely we were sinful at birth, sinful from the time our mothers conceived us. (Psalm 51:5)

C: But we were washed, we were sanctified, we were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. (1 Corinthians 6:11)

Sung by Congregation:

Sin, disturb my soul no longer: I am baptized into Christ!

I have comfort even stronger: Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.

Should a guilty conscience seize me since my baptism did release me

In a dear forgiving flood, Sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?

M: As baptized children of God, we confess our sins.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Sung by Congregation:

Satan, hear this proclamation: I am baptized into Christ!

Drop your ugly accusation; I am not so soon enticed.

Now that to the font I've traveled, All your might has come unraveled,

And, against your tyranny, God, my Lord unites with me!

M: Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the Word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless (*Ephesians 5:25-27*).

Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all our sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Sung by Congregation:

Death, you cannot end my gladness: I am baptized into Christ!

When I die, I leave all sadness to inherit paradise!

Though I lie in dust and ashes Faith's assurance brightly flashes:

Baptism has the strength divine to make life immortal mine.

There is nothing worth comparing to this lifelong comfort sure!

Open-eyed my grave is staring: Even there I'll sleep secure.

Though my flesh awaits its raising, Still my soul continues praising:

I am baptized into Christ; I'm a child of paradise!

CATECHISM REVIEW The Institution and Blessings of Baptism

(Spoken Responsively)

M: First: What is Baptism?

C: Baptism is not just plain water, but it is water used by God's command and connected with God's Word.

M: Which is that Word of God?

C: Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit!"

M: Second: What does Baptism do for us?

C: Baptism works forgiveness of sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare. What are these words and promises of God? Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned."

FIRST LESSON 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. ¹⁵ And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. ¹⁶ So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against

them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹ God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

EDUCATION SUNDAY LES CHOIRS

Pre-K and Kindergarten: Make me a Servant 1st—8th Grade: Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 1:14-20

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵ "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" ¹⁶ As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." ¹⁸ At once they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹ When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. ²⁰ Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

SERMON HYMN

When Jesus Came from Nazareth | CWS772 4 Vs.

When Jesus came from Nazareth, he walked beside the sea.

He saw four fishermen and called, "Come, follow, follow me!

Come. Follow, follow me."

He led them over unknown ways whose end they could not see And, when they faltered, called again, "Come, follow, follow me! Come. Follow, follow me."

We make our vows, O Christ, today to serve you faithfully. For you have called us each by name, "Come, follow, follow me! Come. Follow, follow me."

Lord, grant us grace to walk your way and, falling, rise again Restored, forgiven, hearing still. "Come, follow, follow me! Come. Follow, follow me."

SERMON

Jesus' Glory Compels Us to Follow

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

When the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: ² "Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you." ³ Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it. ⁴ Jonah began by going

a day's journey into the city, proclaiming, "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown." ⁵ The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth. ¹⁰ When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

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

Sing We the Song of Emmanuel | 3 Vs.

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH and LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING AND RESPONSE

(Response Sung by Congregation)

M: We praise you, O God of heaven and earth, that you have so richly lavished us with your free love and unearned salvation, in Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord:

Sung by Congregation:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus | CW452 3 Vs.

Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow his example pure,
Flee the world which would deceive us And to sin our souls allure.
Ever in his footsteps treading, Body here, yet soul above,
Full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the Father's bidding.
Faithful Lord, abide with me. Savior, lead; I follow thee.

Let us suffer here with Jesus, To his image e'er conform; Heaven's glory soon will please us, Sunshine follow on the storm. Though we sow in tears of sorrow, We shall reap in heav'nly joy, And the fears that now annoy Shall be laughter on the morrow. Christ, I suffer here with thee; There, oh, share thy joy with me.

Let us gladly live with Jesus; Since he's risen from the dead,
Death and grave must soon release us. Jesus, thou art now our head.
We are truly thine own members; Where thou livest, there live we.
Take and own us constantly, Faithful Friend, as thy dear brethren.
Jesus, here I live to thee, Also there eternally.

Call News

On January 10th, Pastor Foxen received a call to serve as pastor to Abiding Hope Lutheran Church in Ocala, Florida. The congregation there has 140 members. He would be the only pastor.

Please keep Pastor Foxen in your prayers as he weighs where he can best serve God with the gifts he's been given. He's eager to talk with you about the call and receive your advice and counsel. Feel free to contact him anytime: ben.foxen@crossofglory.org or 262-444-2746.

Communion Setup

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

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

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 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 online 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!

CARE COMMITTEE FOR CALLED WORKERS

Patience and ingenuity would be the way to describe what our called workers have been doing for the past several months. Our pastors have been utilizing all available means at hand to conduct our worship services, to stay in touch with our membership, and to reach out to new prospects. Our teachers and staff have been faithfully carrying out their mission with our younger generation, again with all available means whether in person or virtually. To all of them, we owe a debt of gratitude and our solid support for a task whose results will last for eternity. We pray that our Lord continues to grant health and strength to them all to make this possible here at Cross of Glory.

Rich & Linda Kugler Verl & Clara Naber

New Meditations

The new mediations have arrived and are located in the main entry on the shelves near the restrooms. When you pick up your next quarterly 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. Thank you.

THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

January 25th 3:45 pm Basketball Practice 3-4 January 25th 6:30 pm New River Growth Group January 26th 9:30am Women's Bible Study January 26th 3:45 pm Basketball Practice 5-8 January 27th 10:00 am Mom's Growth Group Basketball Practice 3-4 January 27th 3:45 pm January 28th 3:45 pm Basketball Practice 5-8 January 28th 4:00 pm Catechism Study Hall January 28th 5:00 pm Catechism January 28th 7:00 pm Board of Ed January 30th 6:00 pm Worship Service (Jomax) Worship Service Facebook Live January 30th 6:00 pm January 31st 9:00 am Worship Service (Jomax) January 31st 9:00 am Worship Service Online Sunday Bible Study January 31st 10:30 am Vistancia Zoom Devotion January 31st 7:00 pm

LOOKING AHEAD

February 1st Open Enrollment February 1st 3:45 pm Basketball Practice 3-4 February 2nd 9:30am Women's Bible Study February 2nd 3:45 pm Basketball Practice 5-8 February 2nd 6:00 pm **Evangelism Meeting** February 2nd 7:00 pm **Elders Meeting** February 3rd 10:00 am Mom's Growth Group February 3rd 3:45 pm Basketball Practice 3-4 February 4th 3:45 pm Basketball Practice 5-8 Catechism Study Hall February 4th 4:00 pm February 4th 5:00 pm Catechism LWMS Board Meeting February 6th 9:00 am February 6th 6:00 pm Worship Service (Jomax) February 6th 6:00 pm Worship Service Facebook Live Worship Service (Jomax) February 7th 9:00 am February 7th 9:00 am Worship Service Online February 7th 10:30 am Sunday Bible Study February 7th 7:00 pm Vistancia Zoom Devotion

Vistancia News

Great news to share! Early December we applied for some grant money to help families in need in our mission field. Our request was granted, and our new approach to meeting and helping people will be kicked off February 27. We are partnering with Christian Family Solutions, a WELS counseling service, to educate and assist members of our community that are struggling with the stresses associated with our new state of living right now. We will kick off the work with a seminar on resiliency as it relates to the stresses we are facing. This program is called Cornerstone and is meant to assist congregations to reach out and help those in need. The time and place is yet to be determined, but reserve the day now, and we will get more details out to you very soon.

It looks like worship will need to continue with our brothers and sisters at Jomax yet another month due to our city and school officials keeping strict COVID protocols in place.

To God be praise and glory! Pastor John Ehlers

ACSTO

If you or someone you know is considering Christian education for the family, a **parent workshop** on how to leverage the tax credit for the tuition is being offered by ACSTO. Please see below for details. We **strongly** encourage all parents to attend this workshop on **Wednesday**, **January 27**, **from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m**. The more informed you are, the more prepared you'll be to benefit from the tax credit! For more information on how to donate or how the tax credit works, get in touch with Becky Foxen at 623-340-8354.

Preschool families have the opportunity to get \$100 off their tuition bill by making a donation to our school through ACSTO. See below for details, and don't miss out on this chance to save some money!

LEARN HOW TO MAKE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AFFORDABLE FOR YOUR FAMILY...

LET US SHOW YOU HOW!

ATTEND AN ACSTO PARENT WORKSHOP

Don't let tuition be a barrier. All students attending a Christian School can receive **Tax Credit Scholarships**.

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

- How the Tax Credit Program works
- What types of scholarships are available
- · How to apply
- Our award process
- How to make the program work for you

OUR **ZOOM PARENT WORKSHOP** FOR **CROSS OF GLORY** IS ON:

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27TH

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

REGISTER IN ADVANCE AT:

http://bit.ly/Jan2021crossofglory

ACSTO

WE EXIST TO MAKE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AFFORDABLE FOR EVERYONE

Growth Groups

Pastor Foxen's Growth Group

The Chosen Series

Mondays at 6:30 p.m. (Starting 2/1) Location: At church and via Zoom

Contact Pastor Foxen

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75400877790?

pwd=TUlsOGpWMnU1VU9iYUpZU3B0WVpwQT

Meeting ID: 754 0087 7790

Passcode: k5k7Z1

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 (in person)

Discovering the Ancient Faith: OT Survey course (starts

January 25 for 12 weeks) Mondays 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.

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

Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. Contact Ally Kelley

Jomax Worship Volunteers	January 24th	January 31st	February 7th
Counters	Wempner/ Sasse	Wempner/ Brooks	Wempner/ Voight
Cleaners	Simkauskas/ Pappenfuss	Patterson	Kelley/ Grams
Communion Setup	-	-	Susie Cornell
Ushers	Bill Brooks Brian Ehinger Jake Ehinger Trey Ehinger	Gary Jeffers John Wempner Aaron Gullerud	Chris Patterson Caleb Patterson Isaac Patterson Titus Patterson

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-tobe 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 6pm (Jomax) Sunday Worship at 9am (Jomax) 1930am (Vistancia) Bible Study Session 10:30am (Jomax)