

Epiphany 5 Sunday, February 7, 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!



"Growing weary and feeling like I can't go on." That is an often-repeated phrase during this long pandemic, if not at various trying moments of our lives. In the sermon text for today, Isaiah 40:27-31, we are reminded that at these tough times in life, Jesus is there to strengthen us and hold us up. The hymn **On Eagles' Wings** lyrically affirms this thought:

And he will raise you up on eagles' wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

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 the Word and Lord's Supper

OPENING HYMN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty | CW234 4 Vs.

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!

Let all who hear Now to his temple draw near, Joining in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning

And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.

Have you not seen All that is needful has been Sent by his gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,

Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.

What need or grief Ever has failed of relief? Wings of his mercy did shade you.

Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!

All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!

Let the Amen Sound from his people again; Gladly forever adore him!

GREETING (Spoken Responsively)

M: Grace and peace to you from God our Father, and his Son, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

(Spoken Responsively)

- M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
- C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.
- M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

(Sung by Congregation)

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

Congregation Sings:

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens, your faithfulness

continues forever. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him.

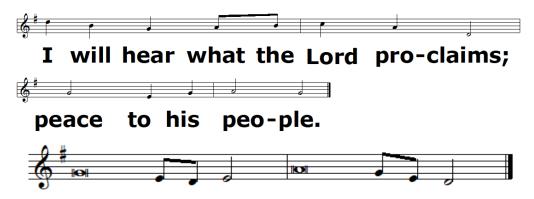
PRAYER OF THE DAY (Spoken by Minister)

M: Almighty God, you sent your one and only Son as the Word of life for our eyes to see and our ears to hear. Help us to believe what the Scriptures proclaim about him and do the things that are pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON 1 Peter 5:6-11

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. ⁸ Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings. ¹⁰ And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and stead-fast. ¹¹ To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

PSALM 103 (Sung Responsively)



Refrain

M: Praise the LORD, O my soul;

C: All my inmost being, praise his <u>ho</u>-ly name.

M: He forgives all your sins

C: And heals all your di-seas-es,

M: He redeems your life from the grave

C: And crowns you with love and com-pas-sion.

Refrain

M: The LORD is compassionate and gra-cious;

C: Slow to anger, a-bound-<u>ing</u> in love.

M: He does not treat us as our sins deserve

C: Or repay us according to our in-<u>i</u>-quities.

M: For as high as the heavens are a-bove the earth,

C: So great is his love for those who <u>fear him;</u>

M: As far as the east is from the west,

C: So far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Refrain

M: As a father has compassion on his <u>child</u>-ren,

C: So the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;

M: For he knows how we are formed,

C: He remembers that we are dust.

M: Our days are like grass, like a flower of the field;

C: The wind blows over it and it is gone,

M: But the LORD's love is with those who fear him,

C: From everlasting to ever-<u>last</u>-ing.

ALL:

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son
And to the Holy <u>Spi</u>-rit,
As it was in the be-<u>gin</u>-ning,
Is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>-men

Refrain

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. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." Alleluia. (John 8:12)

Congregation Sings:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 1:29-39

As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. ³⁰ Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they immediately told Jesus about her. ³¹ So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them. ³² That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demonpossessed. ³³ The whole town gathered at the door, ³⁴ and Jesus healed many who had various dis-

eases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was. ³⁵ Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. ³⁶ Simon and his companions went to look for him, ³⁷ and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!" ³⁸ Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." ³⁹ So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

SERMON HYMN

On Eagles' Wings | CW440 3 Vs.

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, Who abide in his shadow for life, Say to the Lord: "My refuge, My rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain:

And he will raise you up on eagles' wings, Bear you on the breath of dawn, Make you to shine like the sun, And hold you in the palm of his hand.

Snares of the fowler will never capture you, And famine will bring you no fear; Under his wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield. [Refrain]

For to his angels he's given a command To guard you in all of your ways; Upon their hands they will bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.

[Refrain]

SERMON

Jesus Gives Strength to Soar

Isaiah 40:27-31

Why do you complain, Jacob? Why do you say, Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD; my cause is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸ Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. ²⁹ He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. ³⁰ Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; ³¹ but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

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

NICENE CREED (Spoken in Unison)

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and

the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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

(Spoken by Minister)

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

When Peace Like a River | CWS760 3 Vs.

When peace like a river attendeth my way, When sorrows like sea billows roll—Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain:

It is well with my soul. It is well, it is well with my soul.

My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought—My sin, not in part, but the whole, Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! [Refrain]

And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,

The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;

The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend;

Even so, it is well with my soul. [Refrain]

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.

We will be starting worship February 14th, at my home in Vistancia in person and Zoom. Check emails for details and expect a call from me. Communion will be the first and third Sunday's or by appointment. Please contact me if you desire at home Communion.

To God be praise and glory! Pastor John Ehlers

Voters Meeting Reports

On Sunday, January 31, our congregation held its annual meeting. In the Weekly News you can find links to the agenda, minutes of previous meetings, and reports that were shared.

God certainly blessed us in each area of ministry! Both campuses saw membership gains, the school's enrollment is way above what it was last year, and general fund offerings increased by more than \$40,000! In addition, we're looking forward to welcoming a new principal and teacher (Drew Aguilar and his wife, Stacey) this summer, which will fill the holes in our called staff. Join me in praising God for these wonderful blessings! May he continue to bless us in this new year as we carry his Word to those he brings into our contact!

Midweek Lent Worship

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 17. The theme for this year is *The Hands of the Passion*. When we consider Jesus and the people around him in his Passion, we can't help but think of their hands--the hands that beat their breast, accepted money for betrayal, petulantly swung swords, pointed in accusation, beat and disavowed, praised, washed, were pierced, and offered eternal life. In short, we can't help but think about how we sinners have had the same sinful hands of those who surrounded Jesus in his Passion, and how Jesus our Savior has touched us with his hands of grace.

During Lent we will have services each Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. As we've done in the past, the pastors in our circuit will be rotating among our churches, giving us the opportunity to hear others preach and get to know them a little bit.

We will be offering in-person worship as well as the opportunity to watch online. There are a number of ways to watch online:

- 1 Those who have Facebook will be able to watch the services live at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. Go to the Cross of Glory Vistancia Facebook page.
- 2. We will also make a recording of the service and put it up on YouTube and the Cross of Glory website. However, that recording won't be available until the Thursday after the actual service, due to time required to upload it. Once it is uploaded, it can be watched at any time on our YouTube channel or website.
- 3. For those who watch on our <u>church online platform</u>, the midweek services will be scheduled to play on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm. Watching this way allows you to worship and chat with others at the scheduled time.

Whatever method you choose, please let us know that you're worshiping with us by leaving a comment or sending us an email. This helps us keep track of attendance. Also, please note that there will be no soup suppers this year.

Thank you, and may God bless your Lenten meditations as we focus on the suffering and death of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

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!

THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

February 8th 3:45 p.m.

February 8th 6:30 p.m.

February 8th 6:30 p.m.

February 8th 6:30 p.m.

February 8th 6:30 p.m.

Basketball Practice 3-4

New River Growth Group

Grams Growth Group

Pastor Foxen Growth Group

Women's Rible Study

February 9th 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study
February 9th 3:45 p.m. Basketball Practice 5-8
February 9th 6:30 p.m. Church Council

February 10th 10:00 a.m. Mom's Growth Group February 10th 3:45 p.m. Basketball Practice 3-4

February 11th 3:45 p.m. Basketball Game Atonement/Skills Contest

February 11th 4:00 p.m. Catechism Study Hall

February 11th 5:00 p.m. Catechism

February 11th 5:30 p.m. Kindergarten Information Night February 11th 7:00 p.m. Kindergarten Information Night

February 11th 6:30 p.m.

February 12th

February 13th 6:00 p.m.

BIC Class - Pastor Foxen

No School—Valley Inservice

Worship Service (Jomax)

February 13th 6:00 p.m. Worship Service Facebook Live

February 14th 9:00 a.m. Worship Service (Jomax)
February 14th 9:00 a.m. Worship Service Online
February 14th 10:30 a.m. Sunday Bible Study

LOOKING AHEAD

February 15th 3:45 p.m.

February 15th 6:30 p.m.

Basketball Practice 3-4

Grams Growth Group

Pastor Foxen Growth Group

Pastor Foxen Growth Group

February 16th 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study February 17th 10:00 a.m. Mom's Growth Group February 18th 4:00 p.m. Catechism Study Hall

February 18th 5:00 p.m. Catechism

February 18th 6:30 p.m.

February 20th 6:00 p.m.

BIC Class - Pastor Foxen
Worship Service (Jomax)

Worship Service Facebool

February 20th 6:00 p.m. Worship Service Facebook Live

February 21th 9:00 a.m. Worship Service w/Communion (Jomax)

February 21th 9:00 a.m. Worship Service Online February 21st 9:30 a.m. Worship Service (Vistancia)

February 21th 10:30 a.m. Sunday Bible Study

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.

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.

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

09

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

<u>Vistancia Weekly Devotion</u> (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

BIC Class- Pastor Foxen

Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. (10 weeks)

Contact Pastor Foxen

Church Cleaners

Cross of glory is in need of a few more church cleaners for the rotation. If you are able to help please contact Liz to add you to the rotation. If we have enough people the rotation is once every two months.

Jomax Worship Volunteers	February 14th	February 21st	February 28th
Counters	Wempner/ Schirripa	Wempner/ Cornell	Wempner/ Freeman
Cleaners	Plitzuweit/ Peterson	Ebel/ Koutia	Patterson/Pappenfuss
Communion Setup	-	Sharon Kull	-
Ushers	Codi Hall Levi Foxen Tanner Plitzuweit	John Kull Bill Grams Paul Pappenfuss	Verl Naber Al Alcoba Rich Kugler Kelly Simpson

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) 9:30am (Vistancia) Bible Study Session 10:30am (Jomax)