



*Easter Festival Service*  
*Sunday, April 4, 2021*  
Full Script



**Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School**

623-224-8839

[www.crossofglory.org](http://www.crossofglory.org)  
Rev. John Ehlers, Pastor  
Rev. Benjamin Foxen, Pastor

**Jomax Campus**  
10111 W Jomax Road,  
Peoria, AZ 85383

**Vistancia Campus**  
Lake Pleasant Elementary School  
31501 N. Westland Road  
Peoria, AZ 85383



## Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School

*Blessed to be a  
member of*



Welcome to Cross of Glory's online worship! God defines a church as people gathering around Word and Sacrament, and we recognize that this can happen via technology as well as in a physical building. Thank the Lord for blessing us with the means to continue worshipping together in this way! As you join us in this gathering, we pray that Jesus' peace and power fill you.

Please take the time to note some things about how worship will work online:

**Attendance** – We would still like to gather an accurate account of who is worshipping with us for each service. Please let us know you are worshipping by commenting in the chat box. List your full name (first and last) in your message.

**Chatting and discussing** – Before and after each service, there is time available to chat with others. We invite you to do so, as this is a way we can preserve the sense of community we have on a normal Sunday morning. We do ask that you keep chatting to a minimum during the service, so that others can focus on what's happening.

**Giving** – Please continue to give your attention to the gifts God asks you to give to support his work. During the time of the offering, an encouragement will be given to give electronically. You can do so by clicking the menu icon (3 horizontal bars) in the upper left corner, next to where it says Cross of Glory Lutheran Church. Then click the word "Giving" to go to our Vanco page. You can also give by scanning the QR code in the bulletin with your phone's camera, or by mailing a check to us at 10111 W Jomax Rd, Peoria, AZ 85383. Thank you for your continued support during this difficult time!



God bless our time together in worship today!

On this blessed Easter morning, we end our Passion series, "***The Hands of the Passion.***" During Lent we considered the hands of those who surrounded Jesus in his Passion—the hands that beat their breast, accepted money for betrayal, petulantly swung swords, pointed in accusation, beat, praised, then disavowed our Lord. These are hands much like ours—stained with sin. Today, we rejoice in the hands of Jesus, our risen Lord, our Savior—who has touched us with his hands of grace and everlasting life.



## *Easter Festival Service*

### CHORAL GROUP

### Behold the Lamb

*Congregation will join for Crown Him with Many Crowns 1 Vs.*

*Choir:*

*Behold the Lamb, behold the Lamb, slain from the foundation of the world.  
For sinners, crucified, O holy sacrifice. Behold the Lamb of God, behold the Lamb.  
Crown him, crown him, worthy is the Lamb.  
Praise him, praise him, heaven and earth resound!  
Behold the Lamb, behold the Lamb, slain from the foundation of the world.  
For sinners crucified, O holy sacrifice. Behold the Lamb of God, behold the Lamb.*

**Congregation** *(Please stand):*

**Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;  
Hark! how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own.  
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
And hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.**

*Choir:*

*Behold the Lamb, behold the Lamb of God.  
Behold the Lamb, the Lamb of God!*

### EASTER ACCLAMATION

*(Spoken Responsively)*

M: People of God – Christ is risen!

**C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

M: I will not die, but live,

**C: And proclaim what the Lord has done!**

M: This is the day the Lord has made.

**C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

M: Christ is risen!

**C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**



### OPENING HYMN

**Jesus Christ is Risen Today | CW157 4 Vs.**

*Alleluia Banner is processed into the church*

**Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!  
Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heav'nly King, Alleluia!  
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!  
But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! Our salvation have procured, Alleluia!  
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!**

**Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as his love, Alleluia!**  
**Praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

*(Spoken Responsively)*

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

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

M: Upon this your sincere confession, by Christ's command and authority, I assure you that your sins are all forgiven. The vacant cross and the empty grave are God's signs to you that he has accepted the sacrifice of his one and only Son. Whoever believes this simple truth of Scripture has eternal life. The Lord is gracious and righteous!

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

M: The Lord is my strength and my song;

**C: He has become my salvation.**

## PRAYER AND PRAISE

**This is the Feast of Victory | CW265 4 Vs.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*(Spoken by Minister)*

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

## FIRST LESSON

***Isaiah 25:6-9***

On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine—the best of meats and the finest of wines. <sup>7</sup> On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; he will swallow up death forever.

The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove his people's disgrace from all the earth. The LORD has spoken. <sup>9</sup> In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

## HYMN OF RESPONSE

The Day of Resurrection | *CW166 2 Vs.*

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,  
The Passover of gladness, The Passover of God.  
From death to life eternal, From this world to the sky,  
Our Christ has brought us over With hymns of victory.  
Now let the heav'ns be joyful; Let earth her song begin.  
Let all the world keep triumph And all that is therein.  
Let all things, seen and unseen, Their notes of gladness blend;  
For Christ the Lord has risen; Our joy shall have no end.

## THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

## SECOND LESSON

*1 Corinthians 15:19-26*

If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. <sup>20</sup> But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup> For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. <sup>22</sup> For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. <sup>23</sup> But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. <sup>24</sup> Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. <sup>25</sup> For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup> The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

## VERSE OF THE DAY

*(Spoken by Minister; Response Sung by Congregation)*

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

*Sung by Congregation:*

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



## SERMON HYMN

Awake, Arise, Lift Up Your Voice | *CHS743 4 Vs.*

Awake, arise, lift up your voice, Let Easter music swell;  
Rejoice in Christ, again rejoice And on his praises dwell.  
Oh, with what gladness and surprise The saints their Savior greet;  
Nor will they trust their ears and eyes But by his hands and feet.



His enemies had sealed the stone As Pilate gave them leave,  
Lest dead and friendless and alone He should their skill deceive.

O Dead, arise! O Friendless, stand By seraphim adored!  
O Solitude, again command Your host from heav'n restored.

## SERMON

## Life-Giving Hands

*John 20:19-23*

<sup>19</sup> On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." <sup>22</sup> And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

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

## APOSTLES' CREED

*(Spoken in Unison)*

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## HYMN

### Come People of the Risen King

*Congregation joins for Vs. 2 Refrain and Vs. 3*

*Come, people of the Risen King, Who delight to bring Him praise.  
Come, all, and tune your hearts to sing To the Morning Star of grace.  
From the shifting shadows of the earth We will lift our eyes to Him,  
Where steady arms of mercy reach To gather children in.*

### **Refrain:**

**Rejoice, rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!  
One heart, one voice; O Church of Christ, rejoice!**

*Come, those whose joy is morning sun, and those weeping through the night.  
Come, those who tell of battles won, and those struggling in the fight.  
For His perfect love will never change, and His mercies never cease,  
But follow us through all our days With the certain hope of peace. [Refrain]*

**Come, young and old from every land Men and women of the faith  
Come, those with full or empty hands Find the riches of His grace**

**Over all the world, His people sing Shore to shore we hear them call  
The Truth that cries through every age: "Our God is all in all"! [Refrain x 2]**

**THE OFFERING AND OFFERING PRAYER**

*(Spoken by Minister)*

**THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*(Spoken Responsively)*

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

**C: Christ is risen!**

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

**C: He is risen indeed!**

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

**C: Alleluia!**

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

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

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

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

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

**C: You are risen!**

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

**C: You are risen indeed!**

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

**C: Alleluia!**

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

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

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

**C: He is risen!**

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

**C: He is risen indeed!**

*Special prayers and intercessions may be offered here.*

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

*Silent prayer.*

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

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

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*(Spoken in Unison)*

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## CLOSING PRAYER

*(Prayed by Minister)*

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## BLESSING

*(Spoken by Minister)*

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

## ENSEMBLE

**Redemption Story**

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## THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

April 5th	No School– Easter Monday
April 6th 6:00 p.m.	Evangelism Meeting
April 6th 7:00 p.m.	Elders Meeting
April 8th 10:00 a.m.	Mom's Growth Group
April 8th 4:00 p.m.	Catechism Study Hall
April 8th 5:00 p.m.	Catechism
April 8th 6:30 p.m.	BIC Class– Pastor Foxen
April 10th 6:00 p.m.	Worship Service w/Communion (Jomax)
April 10th 6:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Facebook Live)
April 11th 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service w/Communion <b>(Jomax Only)</b>
April 11th 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Online)
April 11th 10:30 a.m.	Sunday School

## LOOKING AHEAD

April 12th 6:30 p.m.	New River Growth Group
April 12th 6:30 p.m.	Grams Growth Group
April 12th 6:30 p.m.	Church Council
April 14th 11:30 a.m.	Early Dismissal– Teacher Inservicee
April 15th 10:00 a.m.	Mom's Growth Group
April 15th 4:00 p.m.	Catechism Study Hall
April 15th 5:00 p.m.	Catechism
April 16th 6:00 p.m.	Talent Show
April 17th 9:00 a.m.	LWMS Spring Rally at Cross of Glory
April 17th 6:00 p.m.	Worship Service w/Communion (Jomax)
April 17th 6:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Facebook Live)
April 18th 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service w/Communion
April 18th 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Online)
April 18th 10:30 a.m.	Sunday School

## Sunday School

We are getting ready to start Sunday school April 11. Please sign up or let Pastor know if you plan to send your children and/or if you are interested in teaching.

## Call News

Pastor Ehlers has received a call to serve two congregations in Michigan, St, John in Clare and Faith in Harrison. Please keep Pastor Ehlers and Susan as well as Cross of Glory, St John, and Faith congregations in your prayers. May God bless

Jomax Worship Volunteers	April 11th	April 18th	April 25th
<b>Counters</b>	Wempner/ Brooks	Wempner/ Voigt	Wempner/ Schirripa
<b>Cleaners</b>	Martins/ Ehlers	Kelley/ Grams	Plitzuweit/ Peterson
<b>Communion Setup</b>	Sharon Kull	Lynn Wempner	-
<b>Ushers</b>	Cody Hall Levi Foxen Tanner Plitzuweit	John Kull Bill Grams Paul Pappenfuss	Verl Naber Rich Kugler Kelly Simpson



## LWMS Spring Rally at Cross of Glory

The LWMS Grand Canyon West Circuit Spring Rally will be held at Cross of Glory on Saturday, April 17, beginning at 9:00 a.m. with an opening devotion. You may attend in person or online.

The guest speaker for the rally will be Pastor Jonathan Leach, who serves as the chairman of the East Asia Administrative Committee. Administrative committees oversee the various mission fields of our synod. The committee members visit the mission fields to help them in their work of overseeing things. The circuit board is recommending that mission fund donations and the freewill offering be sent to the Asia Lutheran Seminary. If you plan to attend in person, the rally will be done by 12:30. No lunch will be served, but you may bring a sack lunch if you desire. To register and for more information, see link in weekly news, or pick up a form at church in person.

## Finance Manager Position

We are receiving applications for a finance manager. The deadline for applications has been extended. If you're interested in the position, you can get a full description from the office. Applications can be picked up at the office.

This position requires proficiency in MS Office and accounting software such as QuickBooks. The responsibilities include church/school accounting and billing; providing monthly reports for the treasurer, pastors and principal; and ability to learn new programs such as TADS and Realm. This person will be working directly with the treasurer to make sure all financial activity is organized and searchable.



**Cross of Glory Lutheran Church**  
at New River, Kiwanis Park  
48606 N 17th Ave, New River, AZ

# New River Outreach Opportunity

## Sunday, April 18

9:30 Am Worship in Kiwanis Club House

Picnic to follow

Hamburgers, hot dogs, games for all ages, playground, softball

Please consider this opportunity to worship in New River and support the outreach efforts of the Evangelism Committee. We are hoping to gauge interest for worship in New River and Desert Hills.

Let us know via the sign-up genius or at 623-224-8839 if you are able to attend so we can plan accordingly for food.



## Vistancia News

The Cornerstone kick-off event on February 27 was a success, and we had 11 people attend. We look forward to offering it again after Easter as six one-hour sessions. Learn more by visiting the link in the weekly news.

We are worshipping at my home in Vistancia in person and via Zoom at 9:30 a.m. The address is: 12786 W Burnside Trl, Peoria, AZ 85383.

To God be praise and glory!  
Pastor John Ehlers

# PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

**Leslie Kirwan**, Daughter of Corrine Julian, as she mourns the loss of her husband.

**Dave Sauer**, Praises for the successful hip surgery after biking fall, prayers for continued healing.

**Anna Burke**, Grandmother of Delia Akao as she battles advanced Liver cirrhosis. Bring comfort and strength to her and her daughter caring for her.

**Karen Juardo**, as she recovers at home after her recent hospitalization.

**Michelle Zane**, who underwent successful knee replacement revision on February 23 and is now at home recovering.

**Judy Sasse**, as she recovers from a broken wrist and stitches on her face from a fall.

**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.

**The Family of Merl Meitner**, who served Cross of Glory Lutheran School as a one-year emergency teacher (after his retirement from the teaching ministry), unexpectedly died on Friday, March 5. A service of Christian funeral will be held on June 26, 2021, in Chetek, WI, officiated by Pastor Jeff Seelow of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Rice Lake, WI. All memorials are to be directed to West Lutheran High School, 3350 Harbor Ln N, Plymouth, MN 55447. All sympathy cards can be mailed to Cinda at 3020 East Main, Mesa, AZ 85213.



**Cross of Glory** was planted by the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) in March 1998 so that with the Gospel of Jesus she can strengthen the faith of her members and reach out into the community with the free gift of salvation. First worship services began at Easter 1999; the dedication of our Ministry Center at Easter, 2005. On Easter of 2017, we began services at our second site in the Vistancia community. Our synod's name reflects that her founders began in the state of Wisconsin. As a WELS church we still hold to the teachings of the Bible restored in the Reformation era. We are...

- a Christ-preaching church. We preach that Jesus is true God, the Son of God who became man, so that through his perfect life and innocent death, He is the prophesied "Lamb of God" who has taken away the sin of the world.
- a Bible-believing church. We teach that the Bible is the verbally inspired, inerrant Word of God, the only authority for Christian faith and life. We aim to teach God's Word in all its truth and simplicity.
- an evangelical church. We trust the Bible's claim that God saves people through the power of the Gospel in the Word and Sacraments. The Gospel is the Good News (the Evangel) about Jesus' saving work. The WELS has congregations throughout the USA and around the world to share the Evangel, the Bible's primary message, with all people.
- a people-caring church. That we're all sinners equally saved by Jesus' substitutionary work strips away human judgments and egos. This truth also empowers us to live Jesus' love for all people by offering friendship, support, and Biblical counseling. Our church family cares about other people-- including you.

Our Preschool & Elementary School exists to help parents in their God-given duty of teaching the Faith to their children: an important aspect of our Church's plan to grow a comprehensive womb-to tomb ministry that serves souls for eternity.

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