



**VBS SUNDAY**  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 1, 2021**



## 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  
Sun. 9am and Mon. 7pm Worship

**Vistancia Campus**  
Lake Pleasant Elementary School  
31501 N. Westland Road  
Peoria, AZ 85383  
Sun. 9:30am Worship

**Welcome to our Worship Center!** God defines a church as people gathering around Word and Sacrament. As you join us in this gathering, we pray that Jesus' peace and power will fill you.

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!



In our world today there's a lot of confusion about who God is and what he is like. This last week in VBS, we had the awesome opportunity to track down the one true God and learn how amazing he is through the pages of the Bible. We learned about the great, almighty, trustworthy ruler of the universe who sent his Son to be our Savior.

In our service today, we are going to share what we learned day by day through Bible readings and song. May God bless our service today as he blessed our learning this week.

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**GATHERING RITE**

*(How Great Thou Art (CW256))*

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

**C: Amen.**

*Sung by Congregation:*

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.

*Refrain:*

Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee,  
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"  
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God to thee,  
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"

M: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

**C: To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father – to him be glory and power forever and ever! Amen. (Revelation 1:4-6)**

M: "The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The LORD our Righteousness." (*Jeremiah 23:5, 6*)

*Sung by Congregation:*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze, [*Refrain*]

M: We have come to worship our God, but if we examine our life and our human nature, we find ourselves unworthy to stand in his presence. Therefore, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

*Sung by Congregation:*

**And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died to take away my sin. [Refrain]**

M: Christ has won your forgiveness through his death and resurrection. In his stead and by his command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

M: Let us praise our God for the new life he gives us.

*Sung by Congregation:*

**When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
And there proclaim: "My God, how great thou art!" [Refrain]**

#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*(Prayed by Minister)*

M: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, by your victory you have broken the power of the evil one. Fill our hearts with joy and peace as we look with hope to that day when every creature in heaven and earth will acclaim you King of kings and Lord of lords to your unending praise and glory; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

### **God is GREAT!**

*Acts 17:16-34*

While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. <sup>17</sup> So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there. <sup>18</sup> A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to debate with him. Some of them asked, "What is this babblers trying to say?" Others remarked, "He seems to be advocating foreign gods." They said this because Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection. <sup>19</sup> Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?" <sup>20</sup> You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we would like to know what they mean." <sup>21</sup> (All the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there spent their time doing nothing but talking about and listening to the latest ideas.) <sup>22</sup> Paul then stood up in the meet-

ing of the Areopagus and said: “People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. <sup>23</sup> For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup> “The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. <sup>25</sup> And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. <sup>26</sup> From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. <sup>27</sup> God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. <sup>28</sup> ‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’ <sup>29</sup> “Therefore since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. <sup>30</sup> In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. <sup>31</sup> For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.” <sup>32</sup> When they heard about the resurrection of the dead, some of them sneered, but others said, “We want to hear you again on this subject.” <sup>33</sup> At that, Paul left the Council. <sup>34</sup> Some of the people became followers of Paul and believed. Among them was Dionysius, a member of the Areopagus, also a woman named Damaris, and a number of others.

 **SONG OF RESPONSE**

**Great is the Lord | LAP100 2 Vs.**

*Refrain:*

**Great is the Lord; he is holy and just by his power we trust in his love.**

**Great is the Lord: he is faithful and true; By his mercy he proves he is love.**

**Great is the Lord and worthy of glory!**

**Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.**

**Great is the Lord: now lift up your voice,**

**Now lift up your voice;**

**Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord! [Refrain]**

**Great are you, Lord and worthy of glory!**

**Great are you Lord and worthy of praise.**

**Great are you Lord: I lift up my voice,**

**I lift up my voice;**

**Great are you, Lord! Great are you, Lord!**

## God is ALMIGHTY!

*Jonah 1:1-17*

The word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai: <sup>2</sup>“Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me.” <sup>3</sup>But Jonah ran away from the LORD and headed for Tarshish. He went down to Joppa, where he found a ship bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the LORD. <sup>4</sup>Then the LORD sent a great wind on the sea, and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up. <sup>5</sup>All the sailors were afraid and each cried out to his own god. And they threw the cargo into the sea to lighten the ship. But Jonah had gone below deck, where he lay down and fell into a deep sleep. <sup>6</sup>The captain went to him and said, “How can you sleep? Get up and call on your god! Maybe he will take notice of us so that we will not perish.” <sup>7</sup>Then the sailors said to each other, “Come, let us cast lots to find out who is responsible for this calamity.” They cast lots and the lot fell on Jonah. <sup>8</sup>So they asked him, “Tell us, who is responsible for making all this trouble for us? What kind of work do you do? Where do you come from? What is your country? From what people are you?” <sup>9</sup>He answered, “I am a Hebrew and I worship the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.” <sup>10</sup>This terrified them and they asked, “What have you done?” (They knew he was running away from the LORD, because he had already told them so.) <sup>11</sup>The sea was getting rougher and rougher. So they asked him, “What should we do to you to make the sea calm down for us?” <sup>12</sup>“Pick me up and throw me into the sea,” he replied, “and it will become calm. I know that it is my fault that this great storm has come upon you.” <sup>13</sup>Instead, the men did their best to row back to land. But they could not, for the sea grew even wilder than before. <sup>14</sup>Then they cried out to the LORD, “Please, LORD, do not let us die for taking this man’s life. Do not hold us accountable for killing an innocent man, for you, LORD, have done as you pleased.” <sup>15</sup>Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm. <sup>16</sup>At this the men greatly feared the LORD, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows to him. <sup>17</sup>Now the LORD provided a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

**VBS CHOIR**

**Mighty, Mighty**

## God is RULER!

*Isaiah 6:1-3*

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. <sup>3</sup>And they were calling to one another: “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.”

## God is EMMANUEL!

*Matthew 1:18-25*

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”). <sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. <sup>25</sup> But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.



### SONG OF RESPONSE

Peace Came to Earth | *CWS707 3 Vs.*

**Peace came to earth at last that chosen night  
 When angels clove the sky with song and light  
 And God embodied love and sheathed his might  
 Who could but gasp: Immanuel! Who could but sing: Immanuel!**

**You show the Father none has ever seen,  
 In flesh and blood you bore our griefs and pain,  
 In bread and wine you visit us again  
 Who could but see: Immanuel! Who could but thrill Immanuel!**

**How else could I have known you, O my God!  
 How else could I have loved you, O my God!  
 How else could I embrace you, O my God!  
 Who could but pray: Immanuel! Who could but praise Immanuel!**

## God is TRUSTWORTHY!

*1 Samuel 17:40-50*

Then he took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd's bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine. <sup>41</sup> Meanwhile, the Philistine, with his shield bearer in front of him, kept coming closer to Da-

vid. <sup>42</sup> He looked David over and saw that he was little more than a boy, glowing with health and handsome, and he despised him. <sup>43</sup> He said to David, “Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks?” And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. <sup>44</sup> “Come here,” he said, “and I’ll give your flesh to the birds and the wild animals!” <sup>45</sup> David said to the Philistine, “You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. <sup>46</sup> This day the LORD will deliver you into my hands, and I’ll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. <sup>47</sup> All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD’s, and he will give all of you into our hands.” <sup>48</sup> As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him. <sup>49</sup> Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell facedown on the ground. <sup>50</sup> So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him.

## VBS CHOIR

Jump

## THE APOSTLE’S 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.**

## THE OFFERING AND OFFERING PRAYER

*(Spoken by Minister)*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *and* 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.**

## **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**

**I Am Trusting You, Lord Jesus | CW446 4 Vs.**

I am trusting you, Lord Jesus, Trusting only you,  
Trusting you for full salvation, Free and true.

I am trusting you to guide me; You alone shall lead,  
Ev'ry day and hour supplying All my need.

I am trusting you for power; You can never fail.  
Words which you yourself shall give me Must prevail.

I am trusting you, Lord Jesus; Never let me fall.  
I am trusting you forever And for all.

## Important Dates

August 8th  
August 29th

Installation Sunday  
Discipleship Sunday

## THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

August 3, 6:00 p.m.	Evangelism Meeting
August 3, 7:00 p.m.	Elders Meeting
August 4, 3:00 p.m.	Orientation
August 5, 9:30 a.m.	<b>Golden Agers</b>
August 5, 6:30 p.m.	New River Growth Group
August 6, 6:30 p.m.	<b>Ice cream Social</b>
August 8, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Jomax)
August 8, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service/Communion(Vistancia at New River)
August 8, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Facebook Live Vistancia)
August 8, 2:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Online)
August 9, 7:00 p.m.	Worship Service/Communion (Jomax)

## LOOKING AHEAD

August 11, 6:30 p.m.	Church Council
August 11th	First Day of School
August 15, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service w/ Communion (Jomax)
August 15, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service w/ Communion (Vistancia at New River)
August 15, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Facebook Live Vistancia)
August 15, 2:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Online)
August 16, 7:00 p.m.	Worship Service w/ Communion (Jomax)
August 19, 6:30 p.m.	New River Growth Group

Jomax Worship Volunteers	August 8th	August 15th	August 22nd
<b>Counters</b>	<b>Wempner/ Moline</b>	<b>Wempner/ Plitzuweit</b>	<b>Wempner/ Cornell</b>
<b>Cleaners</b>	<b>Coates/ Simkauskas</b>	<b>Martins/ Ehlers</b>	<b>Kelley/ Grams</b>
<b>Communion Setup</b>	<b>Sharon Kull</b>	-	<b>Shannon Gullerud</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Chris Patterson Isaac Patterson Titus Patterson Joel Ditter</b>	<b>Cody Hall Levi Foxen Tanner Plitzuweit</b>	<b>John Kull Kim Moline</b>
<b>Sunday Refreshments</b>	<b>Ally Kelley Liz Simkauskas</b>	<b>Sharon Wilson Shannon Gullerud</b>	<b>Naber</b>

## Vistancia News

Our first Month in New River went well. We had visitors that want to continue worship with us. We are going to continue worship at the Kiwanis park for the time being as we won't have a place to worship in Vistancia until August. If you are interested in joining us, the address is 48606 N 17th Ave, New River, Az. When using navigation, Google maps is the best choice, Apple may get you lost. Our service time is 9:30 a.m.

**Please let Pastor Ehlers or Liz know when you are able to volunteer in the areas of setting up worship, greeting/ushering, piano playing, Midi/PowerPoint/sound system, and refreshments.**

Communion will be at 9:00 a.m. on Communion Sundays in New River.

### New River Growth Group

Chosen

1st and 3rd Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.

Location: New River Kiwanis Park, New River

Contact Pastor John Ehlers

Vistancia Worship Volunteers	August 8th	August 15th	August 22nd
Setup	Taylor	Freeman	-
Usher/ Greeter	-	-	-
Piano Player/Music	-	-	-
Midi/Powerpoint/ Sound System Operator	-	-	-
Refreshments	McGrath	-	-

## Golden Agers

You are invited to join the Golden Agers for breakfast at:

Lou's Tivoli Gardens  
12555 W Bell Rd  
Surprise, AZ 85375

We will meet at 9:30 a.m. on August 5, the first Thursday of the month. Please RSVP to Judy Sasse by text or email two days in advance to get a count. Call 602-618-6967 or email [sasseja43@aol.com](mailto:sasseja43@aol.com).

Looking forward to seeing everyone again for our monthly fellowship get-together.

# 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.*

***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.*

## Construction Zone

On Monday, June 7, construction began in the west parking lot to connect Cross of Glory (Jomax) to city water. The workers hit caliche sooner than they expected. They have brought in some jackhammers to break it apart. Expect it to be noisy here during the week. **Please park in the east parking lot while construction is going on.**



**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.