

Sunday, August 29, 2021



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

Sun. 9am & Mon. 7pm Worship

Vistancia Meeting in

New River Kiwanis Clubhouse

48606 N.17th Ave.

New River, AZ 85087

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.

God bless our time together in worship today!



God became man and lived life in our place. Christ lived the perfect God-lived life. Living as a Christian, a little Christ, we have the privilege of demonstrating what God looks like in how we live our lives, in living lives that show God. In the coming months, Cross of Glory will celebrate a God-lived life in 4 services—God's Word will be challenging us and we'll be challenging one another to live a God-lived life.

In today's worship, the particular emphasis of the God-lived life is a life lived for others. In our Gospel, Jesus answers "Who is my neighbor?" God allows us opportunity to serve and love one another. We get to show his love by sacrificing and serving all those around us.

In today's service, we focus especially on ways to serve our communities.

Service One: A Life Lived for Others

Service Two: A Life of Being a Disciple

Service Three: A Life of Hospitality

Service Four: A Life Lived Shrewdly

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Lord God, in coming to hear your Word this morning, you have planted us like trees beside streams of water. Grant that we may ever delight in your Word and yield abundant fruit in our lives, through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. Amen.

 **GATHERING RITE**

(CW467)

M: We begin our worship in the same way we were baptized: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: Heavenly Father, you have blessed us with gifts to serve you and our neighbor. We repent for times we have used those gifts selfishly instead of generously and selflessly. Forgive us and let your peace rule our lives.

**C: ♪ May the peace of God my Father Rule my life in everything,
That I may be calm to comfort Sick and sorrowing. *(CW467:3)***

M: Dear Savior Jesus, you have shown us the full extent of your love by giving your life for ours on the cross. Though that love is what ought to motivate our service, too often our service is grudgingly given, motivated by guilt and obligation, instead of generously given, motivated by your love. Forgive us and let your love fill our lives.

**C: ♪ May the love of Jesus fill me As the waters fill the sea,
Him exalting self abasing – This is victory. *(CW467:4)***

M: O Holy Spirit, you want all people to be saved by the power of the Gospel. You also tell us that you use our Christian lives and service to lead them to hearing the Gospel. We are sorry when people see sin in our lives and not the good deeds you desire from us. Forgive us and live within us.

**C: ♪ May his Spirit live within me As I seek the lost to win,
And may they forget the channel, Seeing only him. *(CW467:6)***

M: As a called servant of the Triune God, I announce to you his grace and forgiveness. On behalf of and by the command of our Savior Jesus Christ, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**C: ♪ May the mind of Christ my Savior Live in me from day to day,
By his love and pow'r inspiring All I do or say.
May the Word of God dwell richly In my heart from hour to hour,
So that all may see I triumph Only through his pow'r. *(CW467:1-2)***

M: We pray:

Almighty and merciful God, you sent your son not to be served but to serve. Grant to us a rich measure of your mercy and strength and work in us a love for others that overflows in acts of service and compassion; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

C: ♪ **May I run the race before me, Strong and brave to face the foe,
Looking only unto Jesus As I onward go.** (CW467:5)

READING

Acts 9:36-42

In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. ³⁷ About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. ³⁸ Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, “Please come at once!” ³⁹ Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them. ⁴⁰ Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, “Tabitha, get up.” She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. ⁴¹ He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. ⁴² This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord.

BIBLE STUDY

A Funeral That Almost Was

GOSPEL

Luke 10:25-37

The Good Samaritan illustrates humble, loving service to those who need it most. May we show the same.

²⁵ On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ²⁶ “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?” ²⁷ He answered, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” ²⁸ “You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.” ²⁹ But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” ³⁰ In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³² So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’ ³⁶ “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?” ³⁷ The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.” Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Lord of glory, you have bought us With your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice,
And with that have freely given Blessings countless as the sand
To th' unthankful and the evil With your own unsparing hand.

Wondrous honor you have given To our humblest charity
In your own mysterious sentence, "You have done it unto me."
Can it be, O gracious Master, That you need what we can do,
Saying by your poor and needy, "Give as I have giv'n to you"?

Yes, the sorrow and the suff'rings Which on ev'ry hand we view
Channels are for gifts and off'rings Due by solemn right to you.
Right of which we may not rob you, Debt we may not choose but pay
Lest that face of love and pity Turn from us another day.

Lord of glory, you have bought us With your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust you boldly, Hope, to stay our souls on you;
But, oh, best of all your graces, With your love our love renew.

SERMON

Jesus Makes Us Loving Neighbors

*Luke 10:25-37**1. Jesus teaches love that fulfills the law**2. Jesus demonstrates love that fulfills the law*

CD recordings 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.

I've found a treasure that can't be taken; Found a well that won't run dry.
O worldly pleasure, be now forsaken; Behold what love, what life is mine.

Could endless striving now make me righteous?

Could all my works now grant me hope?

Oh hallelujah ! The blood of Jesus My only plea my only boast.

Refrain:

Christ is all Christ is all , And my song will ever be.

Christ is all, All in all; And my song will ever be Christ is all.

And in the trial, when storms are raging;

Though tears may fall, my soul will rise.

For there's a peace that is mine unchanging;

There is a joy that never dies. *[Refrain]*

When life is passing and strength is fading,

I'll see the One that I adore.

Let this world vanish oh give me Jesus;

My great desire my true reward. *[Refrain x2]*

THE OFFERING AND OFFERING PRAYER

(To give an offering, please scan QR Code)

(Spoken by Minister)



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Lord Jesus, our only Savior and Lord, we praise and thank you for humbling yourself for us. You gave your life for ours that we might be called children of God, and that is what we are. No earthly effort or riches could be given to satisfy God's just wrath over us and our sins. We were helpless and hopeless. But your holy precious blood paid the price of our forgiveness. You gave yourself freely and willingly for us. Now eternity is ours as a gift earned by you. Grant that we live in awe of this gift and thanksgiving for each day of your grace. Grant us the grace to live our lives for you by living for others. Lord in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

M: Holy Spirit, work in us a rich measure of wisdom that we may reflect your love for us in the lives we live here on earth. Work in us a rich measure of your peace that we can boldly spend our lives in serving others and helping them in their need. Loosen our tongues and bless us with the words to speak to encourage and help others with your love, forgiveness, and truth. Lord, in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

M: Heavenly Father, creator of all, provider of our every need, strengthen our hands to serve you by serving others. Provide our every need and grant us a rich measure of your abundance that we may never fail to have enough as we share with others of the good gifts you have given to us. Help us use the hours of each day not just for ourselves but for you. Help us use the treasure you have given to bless others. Help us to use the abilities you have given us to serve more than be served, as your Son did for us. Lord, in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent prayer.

M: Teach us, O Lord, to love each other more and more. Grant that as we use the gifts you give to live our lives for others, we not only glorify you, but win the respect of outsiders that they may come to listen and learn of your life lived for us, died for us, and raised for our forgiveness and eternal life. We make our requests to you through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

(Spoken by All)

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.

There is an everlasting kindness You lavished on us
When the Radiance of heaven Came to rescue the lost;
You called the sheep without a shepherd To leave their distress
For your streams of forgiveness And the shade of Your rest.
And with compassion for the hurting, You reached out Your hand
As the lame ran to meet You And the dead breathed again;
You saw behind the eyes of sorrow And shared in our tears,
Heard the sigh of the weary, Let the children draw near.

Refrain:

What boundless love, What fathomless grace
You have shown us, O God of compassion!
Each day we live An offering of praise
As we show to the world Your compassion.

We stood beneath the cross of Calvary And gazed on Your face
At the thorns of oppression And the wounds of disgrace,
For surely You have borne our suffering And carried our grief
As You pardoned the scoffer And showed grace to the thief. *[Refrain]*
How beautiful the feet that carry This gospel of peace
To the fields of injustice And the valleys of need—
To be a voice of hope and healing, To answer the cries
Of the hungry and helpless With the mercy of Christ. *[Refrain]*

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Pastor Foxen Has Received a Call

On Sunday, August 15, Pastor Foxen received a call to serve as pastor of outreach at Grace Lutheran Church in Oshkosh, WI. Grace currently has two pastors on staff. The congregation has 800 members and a school with about 170 students. Please keep Pastor Foxen and his family in your prayers as he decides where he can best serve with the gifts he's been given. He is looking forward to evaluating his call and ministry at Cross of Glory and discussing with you the details of his call to Grace. Feel free to reach out to him anytime if you'd like to speak with him about the call.

THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

August 30, 7:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Jomax)
September 2, 6:30 p.m.	New River Growth Group
September 5, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service w/ Communion (Jomax)
September 5, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service w/ Communion (Vistancia at New River)
September 5, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Facebook Live Vistancia)

LOOKING AHEAD

September 5, 2:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Online)
September 6, 7:00 p.m.	Worship Service w/ Communion (Jomax)
September 12, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Jomax)
September 12, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Vistancia at New River)
September 12, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Facebook Live Vistancia)
September 12, 2:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Online)
September 12, 4:00 p.m.	Teen Group
September 13, 7:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Jomax)
September 15, 3:45 p.m.	Youth Group

Jomax Worship Volunteers	September 5th	September 12th	September 19th
Counters	Wempner/ Schirripa	Wempner/ Brooks	Wempner/ Moline
Cleaners	Ebel/ Koutia	Patterson/ Pappenfuss	Foxens
Communion Setup	Lynn Wempner/ Nancy Schirripa	-	Lynn Wempner
Ushers	Bill Brooks Brian Ehinger Jake Ehinger Trey Ehinger	Gary Jeffers John Wempner Aaron Gullerud	Chris Patterson Isaac Patterson Titus Patterson Joel Ditter
Sunday Refreshments	Paula Considine	Naber	Ally Kelley Liz Simkauskas

Workday

There is a workday scheduled for September 11. This workday is primarily for pulling weeds, trimming bushes, and making sure the irrigation system is running properly. The start time is 7:00 a.m.

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 September. 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.

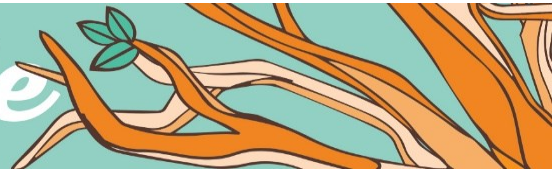
Location: New River Kiwanis Park, New River

Contact Pastor John Ehlers

Vistancia Worship Volunteers	September 5th	September 12th	September 19th
Setup	-	Taylor	Taylor
Usher/ Greeter	-	-	-
Piano Player/Music	-	-	-
Midi/Powerpoint/ Sound System Operator	-	-	-
Refreshments	-	-	-

a GOD-LIVED life

STEWARDSHIP CHALLENGE



A God-Lived Life Stewardship Challenge

Stewardship is about more than money. *It's our whole lives.* Jesus lived his life and gave his life for us. Our loving response is to imitate that.

For the next year, God's Word will be challenging us, and we'll be challenging one another to live a God-lived life. And that encompasses everything. We will be talking about a life of *being a disciple*, a life *lived for others*, a life of *hospitality*, and a life *lived shrewdly*.

We will have four special worship services throughout the year. With each service, we will be introduced to a challenge that we then prayerfully commit to carrying out. How will we commit to the challenges? As individual members, we are going to fill out a different challenge card in conjunction with each service. This will help to involve our entire family of faith in the challenges and help us encourage each other in the challenges. May God bless us as we grow in his Word and in our lives of living it!

The first service will be on August 29th to coincide with Discipleship Sunday.

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 September 14th, the second Tuesday 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.

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

Youth, Teen and Young Adult Groups

Pastor Ehlers will be contacting youth, teens and young adults to start fellowship groups. Please check the calendar on the website for youth and teen events already added. Young Adult events are to be announced .

Construction Zone

The project of installing city water to Cross of Glory is just about complete. The parking lot was stripped last weekend and is available for use once again.

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.

Eddie Romero, uncle of Delia Akao, as he struggles with cancer.

Father of Chris Hansen, was Diagnosed with ALS

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.

Offerings

We have now returned to collecting offerings during the service. Offerings can also be made online by visiting crossofglory.org in your browser, clicking on the menu on the upper right corner (3 horizontal lines) and selecting “**Giving**” from the menu. You can also scan the QR code with your phone’s camera. This will take you directly to the offering page. In addition, you may also mail your offerings to Cross of Glory at 10111 W Jomax Rd, Peoria, AZ 85383.



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.