



*Advent 2*  
*Sunday, December 5, 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**

**Mr. Andrew Aguilar, Principal**

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

**Sun. 9am Worship & Mon. 7pm Worship**

**Vistancia Meeting in**  
Lake Pleasant Elementary School

31501 N. Westland Road

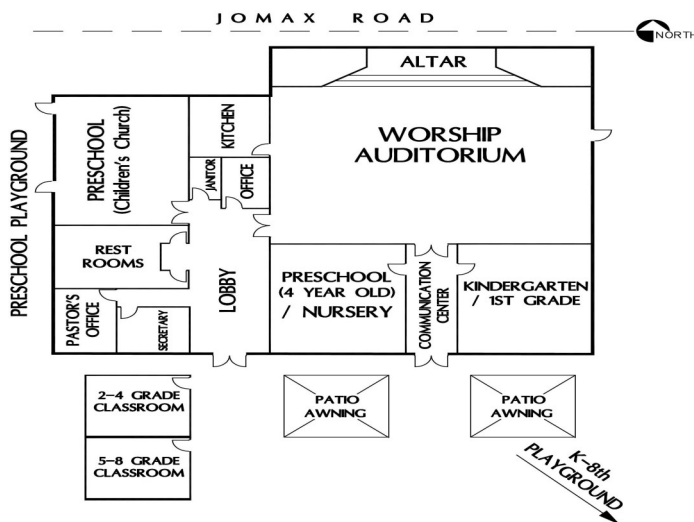
Peoria, AZ 85383

**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.

**Families with children:**

- Restrooms with changing tables located in lobby.
- Nursery for toddlers 2 years and younger accompanied by adult guardian.
- We invite children (*ages 3 to 4<sup>th</sup> grade*) to take part in our “**Children in Church**” program. Worship is a family affair, something that children best learn from their parents. So, for the beginning and end of the service, we encourage parents to guide their children through the service. At the indicated time, children can come forward to hear a special



children's message at the feet of the pastor. Let's work together to bring up the next generation in the Word of the Lord!

**Worship  
focus**

We continue our journey through the season of Advent. In this season, the Word of God bids us prepare for the coming of Christ. The readings for Advent have this urgency to them: Since he is surely coming again in judgment, we desperately need for him to come to us first in grace. For without that coming in grace we will perish at his coming in judgment. The theme for the next few weeks of Advent is “**Hark the Glad Sound**” announcing that our Savior is coming. Each week we will focus for whom this Savior has come.

This week our focus is “**He comes to those caught in sin**”. Our sermon focuses on the account in the Gospel of Luke, Chapter 19. Zacchaeus, a tax collector and part of a corrupt group reviled by the people of Israel, seeks Jesus out and Jesus comes to his house and declares, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup> For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

**PERSONAL PRAYERS FOR COMMUNION**

***Before Communing***

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

***After Communing***

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

## Service of Advent: Hark the Glad Sound

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### INVOCATION

*Tune: From Heaven Above to Earth I Come | CWH331 3 Vs.*

*Verses are sung responsively*

M: Lord Jesus Christ, be present now, Our hearts in true devotion bow,

**C: Your Spirit send with grace divine, And let your truth within us shine.**

M: Unseal our lips to sing your praise, Our souls to you in worship raise,

**C: Make strong our faith, increase our light That we may know your name aright.**

M: Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One!

**C: To you, O blessed Trinity, Be praise throughout eternity!**

### ADVENT PRAYER AND CANDLE LIGHTING *Advent Wreath is lit during the hymn response | CWH323 3 Vs.*

*Soloist sings Vs. 1 & Congregation joins for Vs. 2-3*

M: We rejoice, heavenly Father, that you have stirred up your might and have come to save us.

**C: Our spiritual eyes turn toward Bethlehem, the birthplace of your Son, as foretold by the prophet Micah.**

M: We accept with joy the fulfillment of your prophecy.

**C: As John the Baptist recognized your Son before he was born, help us also to recognize him as your Son and our Savior.**

M: In a most marvelous manner, you prepared a sacrifice for our sins in the womb of the Virgin Mary.

**C: Send us your Holy Spirit that we may truly believe and accept this miracle of your love.**

M: As we anticipate with joy the celebration of his birth,

**C: Grant us your grace that we may see in him the greatness of your love for us. Amen.**

#### ***Sung Response:***

*Creator of the stars of night your people's everlasting light,*

*O Christ, Redeemer of us all, we pray you hear us when we call.*

**When earth drew on to darkest night, you came, but not in splendor bright,  
not as a king but as a child of Mary, virgin mother mild.**

**At your great name, majestic now, all knees must bend, all hearts must bow;  
all things on earth with one accord join those in heav'n to call you Lord.**

### CONFESSION OF SIN

*(Spoken Responsively)*

M: We confess, almighty God, that we have wandered and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

**C: We have followed our own ways and the desires of our hearts instead of your will and way.**

M: We have broken your commandments and neglected your righteous decrees.

**C: We have offended you, our mighty and eternal God.**

M: There is no health in us.

**C: O Lord, have mercy on us.**

M: For the sake of your great mercy, O Lord, forgive us. Spare us the just punishment our sins deserve according to your promises declared to us in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

**C: And grant that for his sake, we may live sober, upright and godly lives to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has taken away your guilt and punishment. Because of the living and dying of God's appointed Lamb, our Lord Jesus Christ, he has forgiven you and restored you to your Father's house. May God grant you peace and joy as you await his return from heaven to gather his people home.

**C: Amen.**

#### **PRAYER AND PRAISE**

*(Sung Response | CWH313 2 Vs.)*

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

*Sung by the Congregation:*

**Hark the glad sound! the Savior comes, the Savior promised long;**

**Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne and ev'ry voice a song.**

**Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, your welcome shall proclaim,**

**And heav'n's eternal arches ring with your beloved name.**

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

*(Spoken Responsively)*

M: Let us pray. Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

#### **SCRIPTURE OF PROPHECY**

*Isaiah 40:1-11*

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.<sup>2</sup> Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. <sup>3</sup> A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup> Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. <sup>5</sup> And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken." <sup>6</sup> A voice says, "Cry out. And I said, "What shall I cry?" "All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field. <sup>7</sup> The grass withers

and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass.<sup>8</sup> The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever.”<sup>9</sup> You who bring good news to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good news to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, “Here is your God!”<sup>10</sup> See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. <sup>11</sup>He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

## PSALM 25

I Lift My Soul to You | CWP 25B 2 Vs.

**I lift my soul to you, Lord, I trust, O God, in you.  
Send forth your truth to guide me, and teach me what to do.  
Remember your great mercy, your everlasting love;  
Forgive me, God my Savior, my guilt and sin remove.  
Your covenant and mercy are with me all my days  
To comfort and to bless me, to keep me in your ways.  
Whenever I look upward, I find you waiting there,  
To bear me and to keep me all safe beneath your care.**

## THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

## SCRIPTURE OF FULFILLMENT

**Mark 1:1-8**

The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, <sup>2</sup>as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: “I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way”— <sup>3</sup>“a voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’”<sup>4</sup> And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. <sup>6</sup>John wore clothing made of camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>And this was his message: “After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. <sup>8</sup>I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

## SERMON HYMN

Comfort, Comfort All My People | CWH312 4 Vs.

**"Comfort, comfort all my people; speak of peace," so says our God.  
"Comfort those who sit in darkness, groaning from their sorrows' load.  
Speak to all Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;  
tell them that their sins I cover, that their warfare now is over."**

All their sins our God will pardon, blotting out each dark misdeed;  
all that well deserved his anger he no more will see or heed.  
They have suffered many a day; now their griefs have passed away.  
God will change their aching sadness into ever-springing gladness.

John the Baptist's voice is crying in the desert far and near,  
calling people to repentance for the kingdom now is here.  
O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;  
let the Valleys rise to meet him and the hills bow down to greet him.

Then make straight the crooked highway; make the rougher places plain.  
Let your hearts be true and humble, ready for his holy reign.  
For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is spread abroad,  
and all flesh shall see the token that his word is never broken.

**SERMON**

*He Comes to Those Caught in Sin*

*Luke 19:1-10*

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. <sup>2</sup> A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. <sup>3</sup> He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. <sup>4</sup> So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. <sup>5</sup> When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." <sup>6</sup> So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. <sup>7</sup> All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner." <sup>8</sup> But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." <sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup> For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

**THE NICENE CREED**

*(Read 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

What Hope! An Eden Prophesied | CWH304 4 V.s.

What hope! An Eden prophesied where tame live with the wild,  
the lamb and lion side by side, led by a little child!

A shoot will sprout from Jesse's stem, a branch from David's line,  
a Prince of Peace in Bethlehem; the fruit of God's design.

As banner of God's love unfurled, Christ came to suffer loss,  
that by His death a dying world would rally to the cross.

Come, Jesus, come, Messiah Lord, lost Paradise restore;  
Lead past the angel's flaming sword— come open heaven's door.

THE OFFERING AND OFFERING PRAYER

*(Spoken by Minister)*  
*(To give an offering, please scan QR Code)*



PRAYER

*(Spoken Responsively)*

M: We lift up our souls to you, O Lord.

**C: Make us to know your ways and teach us your paths.**

M: Lead us in your truth and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation.

**C: O Holy Father, we humbly implore you, help us believe your promises.**

M: As your Old Testament people waited eagerly for the advent of the Savior,

**C: Help us with the same eagerness to welcome the Lord Jesus into our hearts by faith.**

M: Lead us by your Holy Spirit to an understanding of our sinfulness and our need for repentance.

**C: Help us to hate sin and love righteousness.**

M: Be our strength in the hour of temptation and help us to serve you by bringing glory to your name.

**C: Send the light of the Gospel to the ends of the earth that all may know your love in Jesus Christ.**

M: Grant your abiding peace to all who are gathered in your house today.

**C: To those among us who are afflicted, grant your strength so that they may bear their burdens in Christian hope and confidence.**

M: Grant, O Lord, that our lips and lives be a reflection of hearts that are truly thankful for your great mercy.

**C: This we ask in the name of the King of kings and the Lord of lords, our Savior Jesus Christ.**

#### 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.**

#### HOLY COMMUNION PREFACE

*(Spoken Responsively)*

M: The Lord be with you.

**C: And with your Spirit.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

**C: Lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**C: It is good and right for us to do.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

#### HOLY , HOLY, HOLY

*(Sung by Congregation to the tune of CWH412 2 V's.)*

**O holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might,  
Your glory, earth and heaven in countless ways recite.  
He comes to bring salvation and with his blood outpoured,  
Deliver us from bondage Hosanna, mighty Lord!  
Hosanna in the highest! How truly blest is he  
Who in God's name is coming to set his people free!  
Hosanna! Come and save us, Lord God of hosts on high,  
And in your grace and mercy receive our fervent cry.**



## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*(Spoken by Minister)*

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: Amen.**

## LAMB OF GOD

*(Sung by Congregation to the tune of CWH317 2 Vs.)*

**Behold the Lamb of God, who bears the world’s transgression.**

**Whose sacrifice removes the devil’s dread oppression.**

**Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away our sin,**

**Who for our peace and joy will full atonement win.**

**Oh, grant, dear Lord of love, that we receive, rejoicing,**

**The word proclaimed by John, our true repentance voicing,**

**That gladly we may walk upon our Savior’s way**

**Until we live with him in his eternal day.**

## DISTRIBUTION OF SACRAMENT

*(Please refer to “Worship Welcome” in chair pocket)*

*We follow the Scriptural practice of **CLOSE COMMUNION**. If you have not communed here prior to today, you should speak with our pastor before the service. We would like to help you establish the unity which comes from a common confession of faith (1 Corinthians 10:17) before expressing that union together at the Lord’s Table. It is not our intent to judge hearts, but to remain faithful to the truth of God’s Word. Those who have established that connection as members of sister WELS or ELS congregations may register at the podium at the sanctuary entrance. Thank you for honoring our practice.*

## DISTRIBUTION HYMN:

**Behold the Lamb**

*Ensemble sings the verses and Congregation joins on Refrain*

*Ensemble: Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, slain for us And we remember  
The promise made that all who come in faith find forgiveness at the cross.*

*Congregation: **So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice  
As a sign of our bonds of peace around the table of the King.***

*Ensemble: The body of our Savior Jesus Christ, torn for you; eat and remember  
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life paid the price to make us one.*

*Congregation: **So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice  
As a sign of our bonds of peace around the table of the King.***

*Ensemble:* The blood that cleanses every stain of sin, shed for you, drink and remember  
He drained death's cup that all may enter in to receive the life of God.

*Congregation:* **So we share in this bread of life, And we drink of His sacrifice  
As a sign of our bonds of peace Around the table of the King.**

*Ensemble:* And so with thankfulness and faith we rise To respond, and to remember  
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ As His body here on earth.

*Congregation:* **As we share in His suffering We proclaim Christ will come again!  
And we'll join in the feast of heaven Around the table of the King.**

## SONG OF SIMEON

*Tune: From Heaven Above to Earth I Come | CWH331 2 Vs.*

**Lord, let your servant now depart. Your joy and peace are in my heart.  
Your saving pow'r my eyes have known. Your love through all the earth is shown.  
Lord, let us show the world your light. Let us declare your glory bright.  
Proclaim your death until you come To take your ransomed servants home.**

## BLESSING

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

## ENSEMBLE

Days of Elijah

**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; Christian Worship Hymnal (CWH) © 2021; Christian Worship Psalter (CWP) © 2021; and 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*).

## Golden Agers

Golden Agers will meet for breakfast at Brothers Family Restaurant, 8466 W Peoria Av. Ste 1, Peoria, AZ on December 9, 2021 at 9:30. Please email Judy Sasse at [sasseja43@aol.com](mailto:sasseja43@aol.com) if you plan to attend. See you there!

## Prayer Circle

The Cross of Glory Prayer Circle will be starting soon. Please send an email to [prayercircle@crossofglory.org](mailto:prayercircle@crossofglory.org) you are interested in being a part of the prayer circle or have a prayer request. Circle emails will be sent out on a weekly basis.

## Name Tags

It has been a year or two since we have ordered name tags. If you would like to know what they look like, the magnetic board used to store them between services is located on the wall next to the entry into the sanctuary. You do not need to take them home and forget them there. If you would like one, please let John Wempner know. There is also a sign-up sheet on the back table. They cost \$7.90. Or you can send John an email ([jandlwempner@gmail.com](mailto:jandlwempner@gmail.com)) with the correct spelling of your name and he will order them. Please pay John directly.

## Refreshment Volunteers

We are looking for more volunteers for refreshments to space out how often you have to serve. Please contact Clara Naber at [vcnaber@cox.net](mailto:vcnaber@cox.net).

## Council Positions Available

We are looking for a head trustee and an evangelism chairman. Those interested can talk with one of the pastors or church president.

## THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

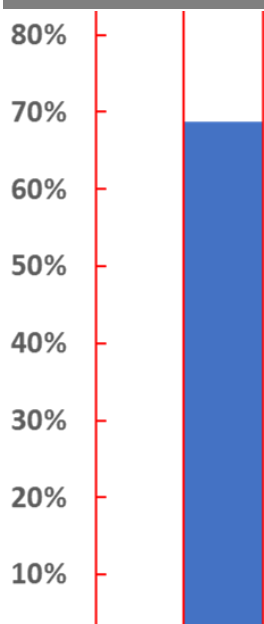
December 5, 3:00 p.m.	Advent by Candlelight
December 6, 7:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Jomax)
December 7, 9:30 a.m.	Women's Bible Study
December 8, 10:00 a.m.	Growth Group for Mom's
December 8, 7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice
December 9, 9:30 a.m.	Golden Agers Breakfast
December 12, 9:00 a.m.	K-4 Christmas Program (Jomax)
December 12, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Vistancia, Lake Pleasant Elementary)
December 12, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Facebook Live Vistancia)
December 12, 10:30 a.m.	Sunday Morning Bible Study
December 12, 2:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Online)
December 13, 7:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Jomax)

## LOOKING AHEAD

December 15, 9:00 a.m.	Mornings with Mommy
December 15, 7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice
December 16, 6:30 p.m.	New River Growth Group
December 19, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service w/ Communion (Jomax)
December 19, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service w/ Communion (Vistancia, Lake Pleasant Elementary)
December 19, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Facebook Live Vistancia)
December 19, 10:30 a.m.	Sunday Morning Bible Study
December 19, 2:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Online)
December 20, 7:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Jomax)

Jomax Worship Volunteers	December 5th	December 12th	December 19th
Counters	Wempner/ Moline	Wempner/ Voigt	Wempner/ Cornell
Cleaners	Plitzuweit/ Peterson/ Aguilar	Foxen/ Pappenfuss	Patterson
Communion Setup	Liz Simkauskas	-	Shannon Gullerud
Ushers	Gary Jeffers John Wempner Aaron Gullerud	Verl Naber Pedro Contreras Tanner Plizuweit	Chris Patterson Issac Patterson Titus Patterson Joel Ditter
Sunday Refreshments	Rene Koutia	Ally Kelley Liz Simkauskas	Sharon Wilson Shannon Gullerud
A/V	Levi Foxen Rene Koutia	Les Program	Pedro Contreras Isaac Patterson

## Update: "Finish the Race" Capital Fund Drive



**"Finish the Race" goal = \$300,000**

**Total commitments received = \$207,045**

(from 33 of 99 families)

**% of commitments vs. goal = 69%**

*With more families participating, our "Finish the Race" goal is achievable.  
Please consider what you can do to help.*

More commitment cards may be found on the table at the back of the church.

You may return the commitment card to the church by mail at 10111 W. Jomax Road,  
Peoria, AZ 85383.

Or, return the commitment card to the specially marked box at church.

Or, digitally make your commitment from the Cross of Glory newsletter under the  
"Finish the Race" article.

## Vistancia News

We give thanks to God that we are able to once again worship at Lake Pleasant Elementary School. We were able to get all the information to the Peoria School District, making it possible for us to use the facility. The address of Lake Pleasant Elementary School is 31501 N Westland Rd, Peoria, AZ 85383.

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

## Worship at New River

We are going to continue worship at the Kiwanis Park in New River. We will worship using remote access and/or prerecorded sermons. We will be asking the mission board to discuss making New River a mission start-up. 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.

### **New River Growth Group**

The Ten Commandments

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

Location: New River Kiwanis Park, New River

Contact Pastor John Ehlers

## Sunday Setup

Vistancia is in need of volunteers to setup Sunday mornings at 7:30. Please contact Liz or Pastor Ehlers if you are able to assist. [cog.secretary@crossofglory.org](mailto:cog.secretary@crossofglory.org)



## Children's Christmas Programs

All members are invited to our LES Grades K-4 Christmas Program December 12th at 9:00 am and Pre-k & Kindergarten Program is December 17th at 10:30 am.

## Special Christmas Services

Christmas Eve Concert in Vistancia is on December 19th at 4:00 pm at Lake Pleasant Elementary.  
Jomax Christmas Eve Service is December 24th at 4:00pm and 6:30pm.  
Jomax Christmas Day Service is December 25th at 10:00am.

## No Monday Services

During the Christmas and New Years Service Schedule there is No Monday service on December 27th and January 3rd.



# 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.*

***Jerry Stern**, the Brother of Grant Stern, diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and undergoing treatment*

***Gerry Ehlers**, the brother of Pastor Ehlers, diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and undergoes treatments.*

***Pat Powell**, as she recovers from back issues.*

***Juanita Word**, as she battles cancer*

## **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.*

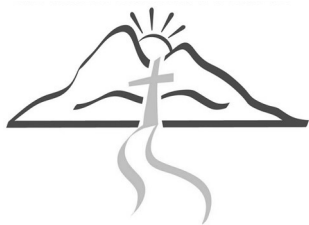
***Major JD Larson**, son of John & Chi Larson, based at Kirkland AFB in New Mexico.*

***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.*

We have now returned to collecting offerings during the service. Offerings can also be made online by visiting [crossofglory.org](http://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.