

The first will be last; the last will be first

Pentecost 11
Sunday, August 21, 2022



Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School

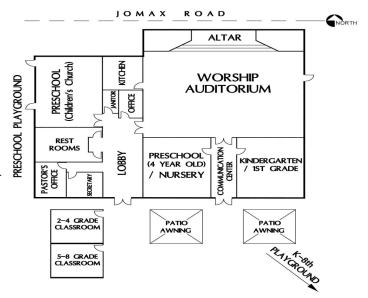
623-224-8839 www.crossofglory.org 10111 W Jomax Road, Peoria, AZ 85383

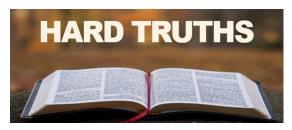
Sun. 9am Worship

Rev. John Ehlers, Pastor Mr. Andrew Aguilar, Principal **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 4th 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!





When it comes to the difficult and uncomfortable topic of who goes to heaven and who goes to hell, it is natural to want to avoid the issue. One way we do that is to direct our attention to theoretical questions. "What is heaven like?" "How old will we be there?"

Today, someone asks Jesus, "Lord, are only a few going to be saved?" Jesus brushes these questions aside. Instead, he answers the question we should be asking. Rather than talking about how many will be saved, Jesus explains how to be among the saved. What he teaches today through his Word is a hard truth. The doorway into heaven is narrow. Scripture consistently teaches that those individuals who are certain they will be first through that door are more likely to be last, if they make it through at all. Instead, the one who believes he is the last one God should let into his kingdom and that his only chance of getting in is through the grace of Christ will enter first.

Acknowledgments

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The Service

Opening Hymn: Bring forth the Kingdom of God

CHS821

You are salt for the earth, O people: Salt for the Kingdom of God! Share the flavor of life, O people: Life in the Kingdom of God!

Refrain:

Bring forth the Kingdom of mercy, Bring Forth the Kingdom of peace; Bring forth the Kingdom of justice, Bring forth the City of God!

You are a light on the hill, O people: Light for the City of God! Shine so holy and bright, O people: Shine for the Kingdom of God! [Refrain]

You are a seed of the Word, O people: Bring forth the Kingdom of God! Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice, Grow in the Kingdom of God! [Refrain]

We are a blest and a pilgrim people: Bound for the Kingdom of God! Love our journey and love our homeland: Love is the Kingdom of God! [Refrain]

Invocation

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

C: Amen.

Confession (Spoken Responsively)

M: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Absolution

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

(Spoken Responsively)

M: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

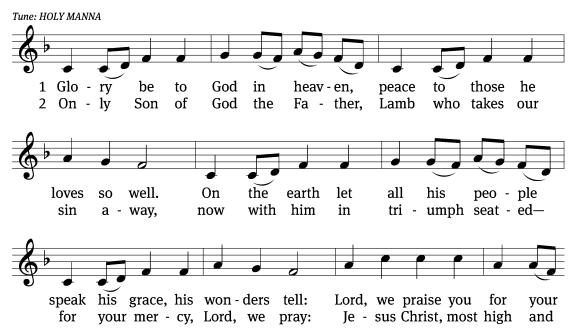
C: Lord, have mercy.

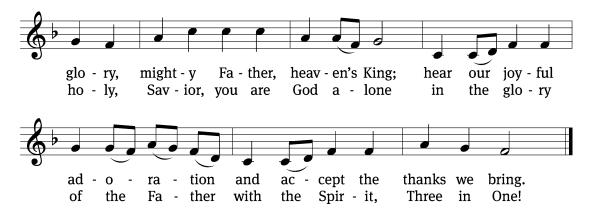
M: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.





Text: Michael A. Perry

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The Word

Prayer of the Day

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 66:18–24

The LORD teaches that not only will those who seemed far from his kingdom be among the first to enter eternal glory, but some of those who seemed to be part of his kingdom will be shut out.

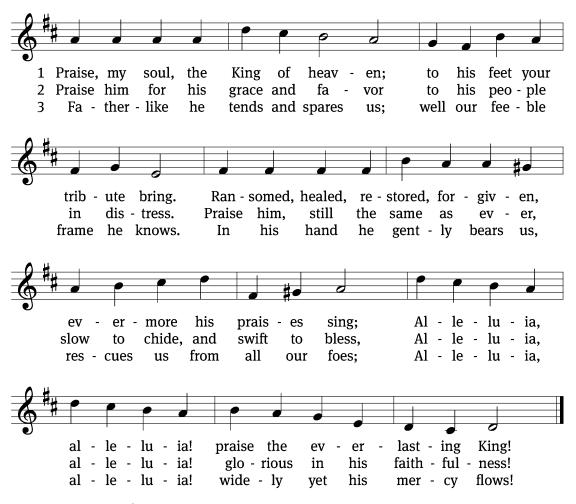
¹⁸"And I, because of what they have planned and done, am about to come and gather the people of all nations and languages, and they will come and see my glory.

¹⁹"I will set a sign among them, and I will send some of those who survive to the nations—to Tarshish, to the Libyans and Lydians (famous as archers), to Tubal and Greece, and to the distant islands that have not heard of my fame or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory among the nations. ²⁰And they will bring all your people, from all the nations, to my holy mountain in Jerusalem as an offering to the LORD—on horses, in chariots and wagons, and on mules and camels," says the LORD. "They will bring them, as the Israelites bring their grain offerings, to the temple of the LORD in ceremonially clean vessels. ²¹And I will select some of them also to be priests and Levites," says the LORD.

²²"As the new heavens and the new earth that I make will endure before me," declares the LORD, "so will your name and descendants endure. ²³From one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath to another, all mankind will come and bow down before me," says the LORD. ²⁴"And they will go out and look on the dead bodies of those who rebelled against me; the worms that eat them will not die, the fire that burns them will not be quenched, and they will be loathsome to all mankind."

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 103B



Text: Henry F. Lyte Tune: John Goss Text and tune: Public domain

The Children's Sermon

(Children may come forward to the altar)

Second Reading

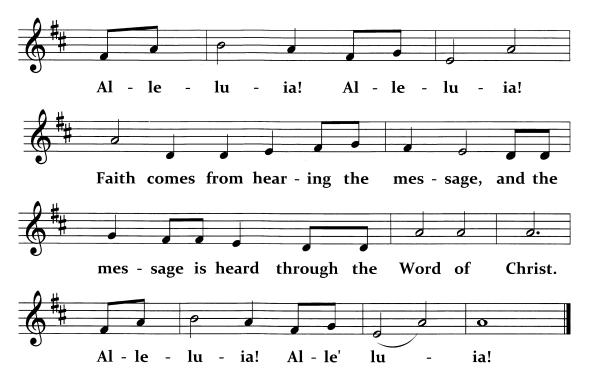
Hebrews 12:18-24

Being first in God's eyes has nothing to do with keeping the Law God gave to Moses and everything to do with the gracious work of the mediator of the new covenant.

¹⁸You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; ¹⁹to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, ²⁰because they could not bear what was commanded: "If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death." ²¹The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, "I am trembling with fear."

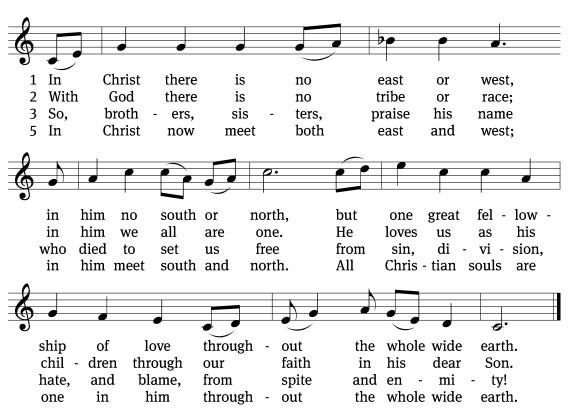
²²But you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, ²³to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

M: Alleluia. People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. Alleluia. (*Luke* 13:29)



Hymn of the Day: In Christ There Is No East or West

CWH 860



Text (sts. 1, 5): John Oxenham, 1852–1941; (st. 2): Mark A. Jeske, b. 1952; (st. 3): Michael A. Perry, 1942–1996
Tune: African-American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866–1949 Text (st. 2): © 1993 Mark A. Jeske, admin. Northwestern Publishing House; (st. 3): © 1982 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716 Text (sts. 1, 5) and tune: Public domain

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²²Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. ²³Someone asked him, "Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?"

He said to them, ²⁴"Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. ²⁵Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, 'Sir, open the door for us.'

"But he will answer, 'I don't know you or where you come from.'

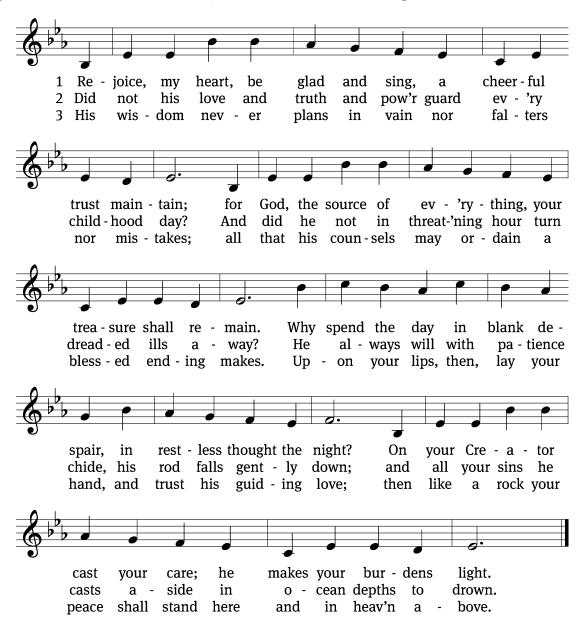
²⁶"Then you will say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.'

²⁷"But he will reply, 'I don't know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!'

²⁸"There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. ²⁹People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. ³⁰Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last."

The Nicene Creed (Spoken Responsively)

- M The world claims everything evolved by accident. But what do Christians believe?
- C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
- M: The world claims Jesus was only a noble and novel man. But what do Christians believe?
- C: 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 truly 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.
- M: The world claims all people have an inborn, godly spirit. What do Christians believe?
- C: 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.



Text: tr. John Kelly, 1833–1890, alt.; Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr.

Tune: Mary Kay Beall, b. 1943 Text: Public domain

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The Offering and Offering Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

Prayer of the Church

(Spoken by Minister)

The Sacrament

Preface (Spoken Responsively)

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

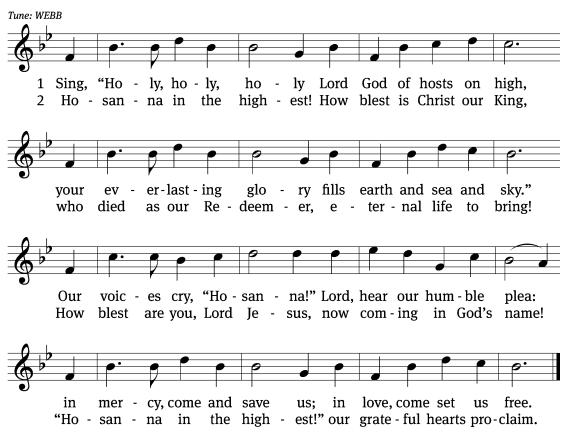
C: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy Sanctus



Text: Michael D. Schultz

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

M: We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Words of Institution

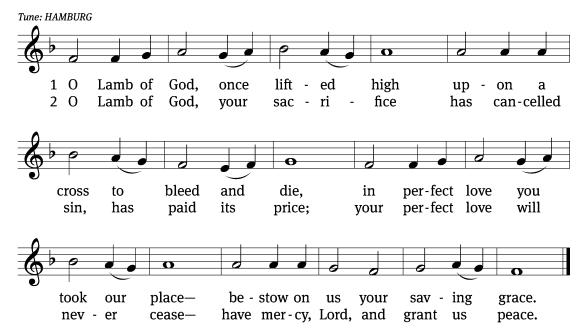
M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

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."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God Agnus Dei



Text: Michael D. Schultz

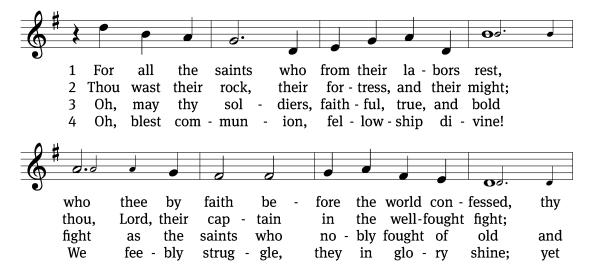
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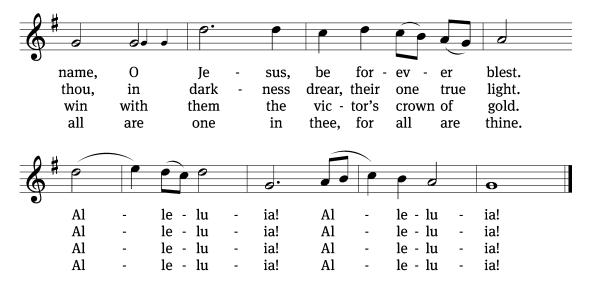
Distribution of Sacrament

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 sanctuary entrance podium. Thank you for honoring our practice.

Distribution Hymn: For All the Saints

CWH 880





And when the fight is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the ear the distant triumph-song, and hearts are brave again and arms are strong.

Alleluia!

The golden evening brightens in the west; soon, soon, to faithful warriors cometh rest; sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

But, lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day: the saints triumphant rise in bright array; the King of glory passes on his way.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt. Tune: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958 Text and tune: Public domain

Thanksgiving and Proclamation

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

C: his mercy endures forever.

M: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

M: 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: Glorious Things of You Are Spoken

CWH 857



Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt. Tune: Franz Joseph Haydn, 1732–1809 Text and tune: Public domain

Call News

Pastor Ehlers has received a divine call to Trinity Lutheran Church in Saline, Michigan. Please keep him in your prayers.

Kids Klub

Kids Klub is a free Sunday morning club for kids ages 3 to 11 and offers a fun hour of activity. See below for the first six-week schedule. Parents are welcome to stay with their children for the hour or leave and come back at 11:30 to pick up their children. Each Sunday, a new Bible story will be taught and/or incorporated into the day's activity.

10111 W Jomax Road 10:30-11:30 A.M.

September 11: The Creation (Brenda G. / Susan E.) September 18: The Fall and the Promise (Cassie A.)

September 25: God Calls Abram (Cassie A.)

October 2: God Answers Abraham's Prayer (Angela H. / Family)

October 9: The Test of Abraham's Faith (Elizabeth C.)

October 16: Isaac and Rebekkah (Andrea S.)

Growth Groups

New River Growth Group

ist & 3rd Thursday (starting September 1) Topic: New Life in Christ Kiwanis Park 48606 N 17th Ave, New River

Golden Agers

The group continues to meet on the second Thursday of each month at 9:30. Please email Judy Sasse (sasseja43@aol.com) several days in advance if you plan to attend the next event.

Brothers Family Restaurant

8466 W Peoria Ave, Ste 1, Peoria

Offerings

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.



Life Coaching Group

Topic: Cornerstone

2nd & 4th Mondays, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Mountain Vista Club

Course description: There are an enormous number of challenges that can occur in life from seemingly tiny to soul-crushingly overwhelming. The CORNERSTONE resilience system is designed to provide a specific set of steps to follow to put into perspective those things that seem unmanageable. Through six one-hour sessions, participants will learn and practice skills and benefit from the ideas of others in their quest to be more resilient and "bounce back" in difficulty.

Worship at New River

We are continuing worship at the Kiwanis Park in New River. We will worship using remote access and/ or prerecorded sermons. Pastor Freeman will be leading worship every third Sunday and offering Holy Communion at 9:15.

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. The service time is 9:30 a.m.

THIS	WEEK A	T CROSS	OF GI	LORY

August 22, 6:30 p.m.	Vistancia Life Coaching Group
August 28, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Jomax)
August 28, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Live Stream Jomax)

August 28, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service (New River)

LOOKING AHEAD				
September 1, 6:30 p.m.	New River Growth Group			
September 4, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service w/ Communion (Jomax)			
September 4, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Live Stream Jomax)			
September 4, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service (New River)			

Positions Available

Church secretary - 10 hours per week
Two part-time to Full-time Preschool Aids

Please contact Liz at cog.secretary@crossofglory.org for the application

Volunteers Needed

We need more counters in to rotation to count offerings on Sunday mornings right after church. Please contact John Kull at (858) 395-5666 or financialsecretary@crossofglory.org

Rental Opportunities

Please keep an eye out for affordable rentals (apartments, casitas, condos, extra rooms, etc.). We have one young man searching for options for housing, Pastor Ehlers' nephew, Tim Hampson.

Singles Retreat

WELS/ELS Singles Retreat Nov 11-13, 2022 at Camp Phillip
Did you know that November 11 is International Singles Day? We invite you to join us at the 2022 WELS/
ELS Singles Retreat on November 11-13 at Camp Phillip, Wisconsin for a weekend of fun and fellowship. For more information about the event and to register check out our webpage: 2022 Singles Retreat



Jomax Worship Volunteers	August 21st	August 28th	September 4th
Counters	Joel Ditter Nancy Schirripa	Nick Nicholai Stacey Cornell	Judy Sasse Susie Cornell
Communion Setup	Andrea Semmann	-	Dawn Ellis
Ushers	Cody Hall Joel Ditter	John Kull Kim Moline Dean Ellis	Jon Naber Rich Kugler Kelly Simpson
Sunday Refreshments	Leslie Contreras Angela Hall Rachel Plizuweit	Paula Cons dine	Ally Kelley Sharon Wilson
A/V	Titus Patterson Isaac Patterson	Kelly Simpson	

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

For members and friends with noteworthy blessings, difficulties or health issues. Today we especially remember in our prayers and ask God to give strength, comfort and courage to them and their families.

Velta Larson, as she regains her strength after recovering from an infection.

Gerry Ehlers, the brother of Pastor Ehlers, who was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and is undergoing treatments. The cancer is spreading, and he began intense treatments on May 10 for three months.

Pat Powell, as she recovers from back issues.

For the family of Gus Koutia in Lebanon, as they face a food shortage due to the interruption of imports from Ukraine.

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, grandsonto-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.



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. 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.