Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School



Last Sunday of End Time Sunday, November 20, 2022

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

Sunday 9am Worship

Rev. John Ehlers, Pastor Mr. Andrew Aguilar, Principal

WELCOME to our worship center

Cerricer VELS Christ's Love, Our Call

Blessed to be a member of

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.

Growing in Faith — Living in Grace — Sharing His Glory

ABOUT US

The continuing purpose of this congregation, as a gathering of Christians, is to spread to all people in God's world the glory of the cross of Christ, by sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ on the basis of the Holy Scriptures.

Jesus promised, "I am coming soon". But what does soon mean to the one who is the Alpha and Omega, the eternal God? We do not know. We want Christ to return quickly, because we know the Last Day will be a day of great deliverance for God's people. But how long will we have to wait? Will it be in a few months or a few millennia? We cannot know. As we await Christ's return, we want to avoid two extremes: impatience and indifference. Let us not despair if the deliverance of the Last Day does not come as quickly as we would like. But let us never doubt that that deliverance will indeed come. How do we avoid those extremes? How does Christ's church remain ready and watchful? In this last week of the Church Year, our Savior does what he has done all year—point us to his Scriptures. The Scriptures record countless promises that have already been fulfilled in Christ. That assures us that the as-of-yet unfulfilled promises are as good as done. There is no doubting that the Last Day will come. There is no doubting it will be a day of blessed deliverance for God's people.

VISITOR INFORMATION

New to Cross of Glory? We are so glad you joined us today! We invite you to stay after the service to chat and join us for coffee time followed by Bible study.

Would you like to learn more about us? We'd love to get to know you better as well. Connect with Cross of Glory by either:

- Using the friendship register at the end of each row to connect with us today.
- Emailing us at church. secretary@crossofglory.org

CHURCH MAP JOMAX ROAD ALTAR KITCHEN WORSHIP NURSER AUDITORIUM JANITOR OFFICE REST CLASEOON B ROOMS COMMUNICATION LOBBY CENTER PASTOR'S OFFICE

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

- Restrooms with changing tables located in lobby.
- Nursery for toddlers 2 years and younger accompanied by adult directly across the lobby.
- Children in Church Program: Worship is a family affair, something that children best learn from their parents. We encourage parents to guide their children through the service. We invite children to come forward for the Children's Message during the service. Let's work together to bring up the next generation in the Word of the Lord!

Service of Worship and Praise

Opening Hymn

Jesus Shall Reign

Ensemble sings Vs. 1 & 2 and first Refrain; Congregation joins for Vs. 3 & 4 and remaining refrains.

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run; His kingdom stretch from shore to shore, Till sun shall rise and set no more.

Blessings abound where'er He reigns; The pris'ner leaps to lose his chains; The weary find eternal rest, And all the sons of want are blessed.

Refrain:

To our King be highest praise Rising through eternal days Just and faithful He shall reign: Jesus shall reign!

People and realms of ev'ry tongue Dwell on His love with sweetest song; And infant voices shall proclaim Their early blessings on His Name. (*Refrain*)

Let every creature rise and bring Blessing and honor to our King; Angels descend with songs again, And earth repeat the loud amen! *(Refrain)*

We Gather in God's Name

(Read/Sung Responsively)

M: We gather for worship the same way we were baptized: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

- M: As believers in Christ we are called to repent of our sins and forgive one another. In the book of James we are told, "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for one another so that you may be healed." As one body in Christ, we unite our hearts in prayer:
- C: Lord, I pray to you because I am suffering. I have cut myself off from you and others by the sin in my life. I need your forgiveness so that I may find healing for my wounded life and for the wounds I have caused others. Today in the name of Jesus I pray, forgive me; and by the power of your Holy Spirit, renew my heart. Amen.



Hymn of praise, prayer, or reflection on the season of the church year.

We follow the advice of the Apostle Paul to "teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts." (Colossians 3:16)



We call upon God to be present with us. We worship the triune God, remembering our Baptism in His name.



"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. " (I John 1:9)

Congregation Sings:

The song of confession is taken from Isaiah which reminds us that "all our righteous acts are like filthy rags", but along with Isaiah we acknowledge that through his Word our God is able to mold us into the humble servants he wants us to be.



- M: We take comfort and find confidence in the words of Jesus, "He sent me to announce forgiveness to the prisoners of sin, to restore sight to the blind, to bring mercy to lives shattered by sin, to announce the favor of the Lord." God gave his only Son, Jesus, to die for our sins and rise from death to give us eternal life. We are forgiven. We live in the favor of the Lord. We live in his power, energized to tell of his peace.
- C: Amen.

Congregation Sings:



- 4 -



This hymn of praise gives the congregation the opportunity to praise God and express joy because our debt of sin was paid by Jesus, our victorious Savior.



First Reading

Habakkuk 1:1–3; 2:1-4

¹The prophecy that Habakkuk the prophet received. ²How long, LORD, must I call for help, but you do not listen? Or cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not save? ³Why do you make me look at injustice? Why do you tolerate wrongdoing? Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and conflict abounds. ¹I will stand at my watch and station myself on the ramparts; I will look to see what he will say to me, and what answer I am to give to this complaint. ²Then the LORD replied: "Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it. ³For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay. ⁴"See, the enemy is puffed up; his desires are not upright but the righteous person will live by his faithfulness— The Children's Sermon (All children are invited to sit in front with Pastor)



Like we are, Habakkuk was waiting for the LORD to act. God promised that he would act, and he had his prophet put that promise in writing.

Choir

This is the Time to Be Joyful



Jesus urges us to remain ready for his return at all times.



This hymn follows the theme of the readings and sets the stage for the sermon.

Gospel

³⁵"Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, ³⁶like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. ³⁷It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. ³⁸It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night or toward daybreak. ³⁹But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."

Sermon Hymn: Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

CW29

Lo, he comes with clouds descending, once for ev'ry sinner slain. thousand, thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train. Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ reveals his endless reign.

Ev'ry eye shall now behold him robed in glorious majesty; those who ridiculed and sold him, pierced and nailed him to the tree, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion still his dazzling body bears, cause of endless exultation to his ransomed worshipers. With what wonder, With what wonder, gaze we on those glorious scars.

Yea, Amen, let all adore you High on your eternal throne. Ev'ry knee shall bow before you; Come and take your people home! Alleluia, Alleluia! You shall reign and you alone!

Sermon

The Last Day:

Revelation 22:6–13

A Day of Deliverance Which God's People Eagerly Await

⁶The angel said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true. The Lord, the God who inspires the prophets, sent his angel to show his servants the things that must soon take place."

⁷"Look, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy written in this scroll."

⁸I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I had heard and seen them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who had been showing them to me. ⁹But he said to me, "Don't do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your fellow prophets and with all who keep the words of this scroll. Worship God!"

¹⁰Then he told me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this scroll, because the time is near. ¹¹Let the one who does wrong continue to do wrong; let the vile person continue to be vile; let the one who does right continue to do right; and let the holy person continue to be holy."

¹²"Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. ¹³I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

The 2nd Article of the Apostles' Creed (Redemption) (Spoken Responsively)

- M: 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.
- C: 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.
- M: What does this mean?
- C: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord.
- M: He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.
- C: All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true.



In the sermon the Pastor proclaims God's Word and applies that word to modern life and problems. He stresses both what God demands of us (the Law) and what God does for us through Jesus Christ (the Gospel).



After hearing the Word of God, we respond with our confession of faith.

Today, we confess the second article of The Apostles' Creed, which focuses on the second person of the Trinity, Jesus, and on the major elements of Jesus' story of our redemption – his birth, death and resurrection.

The explanation is taken from Luther's Small Catechism.

Song of the Season: My Heart is Fill with Thankfulness

CWH 626

Ensemble sings Vs. 1 and Congregation joins for Vs 2-3

My heart is filled with thankfulness to him who bore my pain, who plumbed the depths of my disgrace and gave me life again, who crushed my curse of sinfulness and clothed me in his light and wrote his law of righteousness with pow'r upon my heart.

Sung by Congregation:



* This phrase repeats at the end of st. 3.

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Offering and Offering Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

The gifts of God's people are a response to God's blessings.

This is a hymn selected

for the current church

season that is generally new to our congrega-

tion, usually introduced

first by a soloist, and repeated for several

weeks to assist the

congregation in learning the hymn.



(Prayed by Minister)

The apostle Paul encouraged young Pastor Timothy: " I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people ". (I Timothy 2:1)

Today we sing the prayer Jesus taught us.

(Matthew 6)



Holy Communion

The Preparation

(Spoken Responsively)

- M: I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another,
- C: so that there may be no divisions among you, and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought. (1 Cor. 1:10)
- M: Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ?
- C: And is not the bread that we break, a participation in the body of Christ?
- M: Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body:
- C: for we all partake of the one loaf. (1 Cor 10:16-17)
- M: Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord.
- C: A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. (1 Cor 11:26-28)



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 responsive reading from I Corinthians reminds the communi-

cants of the necessity

of the unity of faith and preparation required as

we receive the body and blood of Christ.

As we approach the Lord's table, we are reminded that we are invited only because of the price Jesus paid on the cross.



The pastor speaks the words which Jesus spoke when he instituted the Supper with his disciples in the Upper Room. With these words the bread and wine are consecrated, that is, set apart for God's use in this special meal. M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Sung Response: What is this Bread CWH 665 9 What is this bread? Christ's bod 1 -У wine? of 2 What is this The blood this me? 5 Is for Ι am for -0 dead: this bread ris en from the we break, Je - sus shed for mine; cup of grace the free! be - lieve giv - en and set Ι do this life was crushed to take. for we pay our re brings his em - brace of life and love un - til Ι that Ι re - ceive his bod - v and his ver - v 0 the Lord is lease. taste and seepeace. sing! 0 King. taste and seethe Lord is blood. 0 the Lord is taste and seegood. Text: Frederic W. Baue, b. 1946 Tune: Jean Neuhauser Baue, b. 1951 Text and tune: © 1991 Fred and Jean Baue. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716

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. This hymn of response perfectly describes the blessings of this Sacrament - forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.

Distribution Hymn: Draw Near

This is a hymn sung by the congregation during the distribution of the Lord's Supper.



Draw near and take the body of your Lord, and drink the holy blood for you outpoured. Saved by his body and his holy blood, with souls refreshed we give our thanks to God. (**Refrain**)

Christ our Redeemer, God's eternal Son, has by his cross and blood the vict'ry won. He gave his life for greatest and for least, himself the off'ring and himself the priest. (**Refrain**)

Let us approach with faithful hearts sincere and take the pledges of salvation here. Christ, who in this life all the saints defends, gives all believers life that never ends. (**Refrain**)

With heav'nly bread he makes the hungry whole, gives living waters to the thirsting soul. Lord of the nations, to whom all must bow, in this great feast of love be with us now. (**Refrain**) Text: tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; Latin, 7th cent., abr. Text: Public domainOpening Hymn

Song of Simeon Nunc Dimittis





The Nunc Dimittis ("now dismiss") is also known as the "Song of Simeon" (Luke 2: 29-32). Through God's Word and Sacrament, we too have seen Christ, the Messiah. Like aged Simeon who held the Christchild in his arms as God had promised, we find divine peace and comfort through faith in the Savior.



Closing Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through Him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

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

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Ensemble

Saints Behold Him



The **Aaronic Blessing** is the blessing that Aaron and his sons were to speak over the people of Israel, recorded in Numbers 6:23–27. The pastor offers the same blessing to the congregation as they are about to conclude their worship.

Acknowledgments

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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.

Worship	November	November	November
Volunteers	20th	24th (Thanksgiving)	27th
Counters	Nick Nicholai		Bill Brooks
	Norm Voigt		Harry Novack
Cleaners	Gullerud		Plitzuweit/Peterson
			Aguilar
Communion Setup	Shannon	-	-
Ushers	Chris Patterson	Pedro Contreras	Len Collyard
	Issac Patterson	Sabrina Ebel	Nick Nickolai
	Titus Patterson	Tanner Plizuweit	Steve Semmann
	Grant Stern	Michael Radue	Sharon Wilson
Sunday	Thanksgiving		Stacy Aguilar
Refreshments	Potluck		Karen Goelzer
A/V	Titus Patterson		Rene Koutia
	Pedro Contreras		Gus Koutia

Mommy & Me

The Mommy & Me meeting scheduled for November 16 has been canceled. The Next Mommy & Me will be a "Happy Birthday party for Jesus" on December 7th starting at 9am.

Thanksgiving Potluck

Please join us after the service today for fellowship and food as we gather together for our Thanksgiving Potluck.

Thanksgiving Service

Come join us as we give thanks to God for all of the blessings that he has bestowed on us. The service will be on Nov 24th at 7:00pm



Tree Decorating & White Elephant Exchange (Potluck)

We will be decorating the church for Christmas on November 26th at 4:00 pm. It goes pretty quickly when we have a number of people helping out. If you plan to come, please also bring a dish to pass, as we have a light meal following the decorating. We also finish off the night with a white elephant gift exchange. Bring a silly, inexpensive gift for each person from your family that would like to take part in the exchange.



Let's decorate, eat and be happy! Plates, Silverware, Cups & Napkins will be provided!

Tree Lighting Ceremony

The annual Tree Lighting Ceremony will be December 3 from 6p-8p in Vistancia at the Mountain Vista Club. Please contact Dean Ellis at <u>deanellis33@gmail.com</u> for further information

Volunteers are needed to sing Christmas carols and hand out information about our upcoming church services.

Advent by Candlelight

Advent by Candlelight will take place Sunday, December 4, at 3pm. If you'd like to be a table hostess please reach out to Karin Hansen (karinwedeking@hotmail.com) or Tracy (church.secretary@cog.org) in the church office and we will get your name in the appropriate slot. Each table will seat one hostess plus seven guests. Please use the QR code to view available slots below and to sign up to attend Advent by Candlelight Thank you!



Weekly/Monthly News QR code



For all other church/school news and events please scan the provided QR code or check you email.

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

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, 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.



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...

Cross of Glory was planted by the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) in March

- 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.