

## Sermon Notes

## Life Notes

## Upcoming Week

### re:FORMING #6: "From Cut to Crown"

Isaiah 5:1-7; 11:1-5

**Opener:** Share a time when you tasted something surprisingly sour or stale.

#### Go Deeper:

1. Read Isaiah 5:1-7. How does the imagery of the vineyard help convey God's relationship with His people?
2. How do you feel about how God treats his "vineyard"?
3. Read Luke 13:6-9. What might be any connection between that passage with the vineyard imagery in Isaiah 5:1-7?
4. Isaiah 11:1 mentions the stump of Jesse. Who is Jesse, and why is this reference significant in the context of the passage?
5. In Isaiah chapter 11, who is the "shoot" that comes up from the stump of Jesse? What is the connection between this "shoot" and God's people?

#### Live It:

1. In what ways can you trust in the finished work of Christ for your righteousness rather than relying on your own deeds?
2. Reflect on the gracious gift of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. How can you express gratitude for this gift in your daily life, and how might it impact your interactions with others?
3. Consider areas in your life where you may feel spiritually cut off or in a state of "stump." How can the promise of restoration through Jesus Christ bring hope and renewal in these areas?
4. Read 2 Timothy 4:8. How does the anticipation of receiving the "crown of righteousness" impact your perspective on the challenges you face today? How can this hope influence your actions and attitudes this week?

### We would love to hear your story!

If you have a story to share of healing, praise, gratitude, serving in a mission or ministry at Victory, please send to [hello@victorylutheran.com](mailto:hello@victorylutheran.com).  
(200-300 word limit)

#### Daily Bible Readings (November 19-25)

Sunday: Isaiah 5:1-7; 11:1-5  
Monday: 2 Kings 18:1-8  
Tuesday: 2 Kings 18:13-18  
Wednesday: 2 Kings 18:28-37  
Thursday: 2 Kings 19:1-2, 5-7, 29-37  
Friday: 2 Kings 20:1-11  
Saturday: 2 Kings 21:1-9

\*The readings selected come from the Narrative Lectionary calendar our sermon series is based on.

### Sunday, November 19 New Member Commissioning Blessing of the Shoeboxes

7-11am Morning Fellowship, FH  
8am Worship & Communion, WC  
9:30am Worship, WC

**11am Annual Congregational Meeting, WC**  
**3pm Organ Concert, WC**

### Monday, November 20

9-11:30am Food Pantry  
12:30-2:30pm GriefShare, C4

### Tuesday, November 21

7pm AA Men's Meeting, FS  
3pm Council Meeting, B7

### Wednesday, November 22

#### FOOD PANTRY CLOSED

12:30pm Al-Anon, C4  
4pm I-HELP Program, C4

**4pm Thanksgiving Eve Service, WC**

**5pm Thanksgiving Eve Dinner, FH (Full)**

8pm AA Meeting, FS

### Thursday, November 23

**THANKSGIVING DAY — OFFICE CLOSED**

I-HELP Program, C4

### Friday, November 24

Office Closed

I-HELP Program, C4

### Saturday, November 25

8am Men's Bible Study, FS  
4pm Worship, WC

I-HELP Program, C4

CH = Chapel  
FH = Fellowship Hall  
FS = Fireside Room  
LR = Luther Room  
WC = Worship Center  
C4 = Community Room



## Give thanks

TO THE LORD, FOR HE IS GOOD,  
HIS LOVE ENDURES FOREVER.  
PSALM 106:1

**Victory Lutheran Church**  
5946 E. University Drive, Mesa, AZ 85205  
[hello@victorylutheran.com](mailto:hello@victorylutheran.com)  
480-830-5024  
[VictoryLutheran.com](http://VictoryLutheran.com)



VICTORY  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

# re:FORMING



November 18 & 19, 2023

"From Cut to Crown"

Isaiah 5:1-7; 11:1-5

# THE PULSE

Connect with us!



## GOD TIME: GIVE THANKS IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES

On many occasions in the Psalms, David complained about his circumstances (Psalm 28; 42; 57; 62). But more often than not, about midway through David's laments, he begins praising God for who He is and thanking God for what He's done. And you know what happens? All of a sudden David starts feeling better! Life isn't so bad after all! His problems grow smaller as his perspective of God grows larger, and he begins to see God's glory shining through the situation.

*Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever.*  
1 Chronicles 16:34

*The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him, and He helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise Him.*  
Psalm 28:7

*Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.*  
Philippians 4:4-6



*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

*Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you 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



## ORGAN CONCERT: NOVEMBER 19 @ 3PM

### "Notes from a Thankful Heart"

Come hear Dr. Kristin Holton Prouty explore the diverse sounds of our Bigelow organ, Opus 17. Kristin will be sharing some of her favorite pieces from composers including Johann Sebastian Bach, George Frederic Handel and Sigfrid Karg-Elert. This music will be a way to lift our hearts in thankfulness as we begin the week of Thanksgiving.



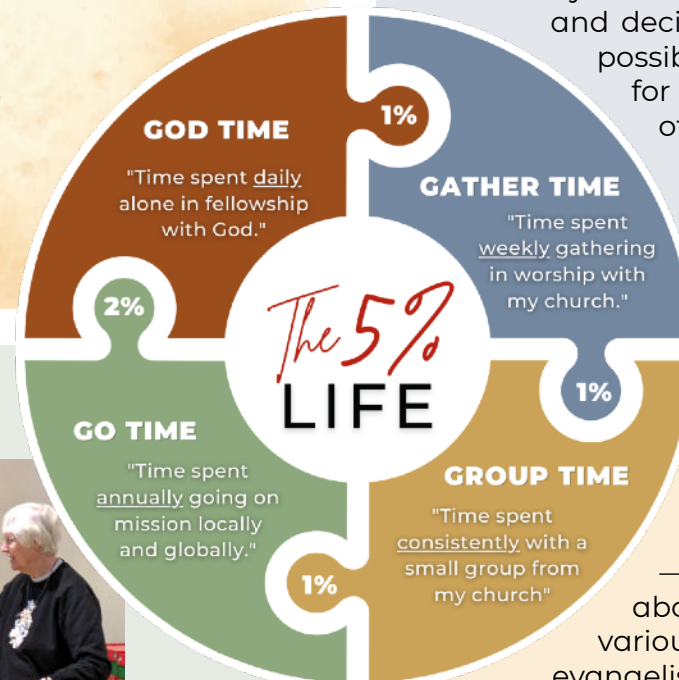
## THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP SERVICE - NOVEMBER 22 @ 4PM

### GATHER TIME: Lynda Buechner, Thanksgiving Meal Coordinator

I remember what it was like when my husband and I and our two boys moved to Alaska in late August of 1971. School had just started for the boys, my husband was traveling throughout the state for work, and I was busy getting acclimated to our new surroundings. Before I knew it, Thanksgiving had arrived! And there we were, 4,000 miles from home, too soon to have made any real friends, and celebrating our first Thanksgiving in Alaska — ALONE!

Since that Thanksgiving in 1999, I was chatting with friends at church and inquiring if everyone had had a nice Thanksgiving. I was saddened to hear several say that they had been alone for the holiday. I remembered how we had felt all alone in Alaska during our first Thanksgiving there and decided we could do something about that! So, I talked with Pastor Larry about the possibility of putting on a Thanksgiving dinner at Victory for anyone who might be alone for the holiday and he agreed that was a great idea. We even had volunteers who offered to cover the costs of the dinner if we charged a small fee and donated those monies to Victory's Food Pantry. It doesn't get much better than that folks!

So this year, as we once again serve up our Thanksgiving Eve Dinner, let's all remember our many blessings, including being able to gather together at any time to receive the many blessings HE has given us.



## GO TIME: OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

### November 11th — Shoebox Packing Party!

Thank you to 26 amazing volunteers who showed up to packed 177 shoeboxes and to those who donated items.



**Shoebox Deadline Nov. 19**



## GROUP TIME: MUSIC MINISTRY

### Ted & Darla Groat, VLC choir members

We have both been playing piano and singing all our lives. I have also coached music groups — starting with my three sisters when I was about 12 ! Then my work was as Music Minister in various churches and some of it was training youth evangelistic music teams in Canada, Minnesota, and, for ten years, in Europe with Youth for Christ International.



When we came to Victory four years ago after retiring, we were impressed with the music here — the organ, the choir and especially, we loved that the congregation sings so enthusiastically!

This is our third season singing in the choir and it's a blessing. There's good social fellowship among the singers and plenty of musical challenges to read all the notes that are thrown at us! I really appreciate the great work that our Director of Worship and Music, Kristin Holton Prouty, does to choose hymns and anthems that parallel the theme of each week's message. We are grateful for the opportunity to still do music in retirement.

For several years I've been recording a "Song of the Month" to share some of my favorite hymns and Gospel songs. You can search "Groat Notes - Ted's Song of the Month" on YouTube or you may scan the QR code with your smart phone to access directly. The latest song is "The Goodness of God" a wonderful song for Thanksgiving.

Martin Luther said it best: "Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given to man that he should proclaim the Word of God through music."



SCAN ME

*The Goodness of God*