

## Sermon Notes

### Daily Bible Readings:

Sunday:	Exodus 3:1-15
Monday:	Exodus 5:1-9
Tuesday:	Exodus 7:1-13
Wednesday:	Exodus 12:29-32
Thursday:	Exodus 14:5-14
Friday:	Exodus 14:19-31
Saturday:	Deuteronomy 5:1-21

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

### 90-Day Bible Reading Plan

Did you know? Beginning October 1, if you read about 3 chapters a day, you will have read the entire New Testament by the end of the year!

Scan the QR code with your phone's camera



## Life Notes

### Close Encounters #4: "God's Faithfulness Over Time"

Exodus 1:8-14; 3:1-15; Hebrews 11:23-28, 32-40

**Opener:** Read about the heroes of faith in Hebrews 11:32-40. Whose story resonates with you the most, and why?

#### Go Deeper:

1. Identify any promises made by God to Abraham (Genesis 12:2-3) and connect them to the situation in Egypt. How were God's promises seemingly threatened during this time?
2. Read Hebrews 11:23-28. Talk about how Moses endured suffering and rejection for the sake of God's promise. What can you learn from his endurance in the face of opposition?
3. What does it mean in verse 26 that Moses "... regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward"?
4. Read Hebrews 11:39-40. What do you think it means that "... none of them received what had been promised, since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect"?
5. Discuss instances where individuals did not see the fulfillment of God's promises during their lifetime. What kept them faithful despite not witnessing the fulfillment of what was promised?

#### Live It:

1. Share a promise or plan in your life that seems delayed or unfulfilled. How can the Israelites' waiting period in Egypt serve as a reminder that God's promises are worth waiting for?
2. Where do you see Jesus amidst suffering or waiting in your life?
3. Read 2 Peter 3:8. What does this Biblical truth mean for your life?
4. What specifically is God saying to you?
5. What specifically are you going to do about it this week?

## Upcoming Week

### Sunday, October 1

#### Communion Weekend

7-11am Morning Fellowship, FH

8am Worship, WC

9:30am Worship, WC

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

### Monday, October 2

9-11:30am Food Pantry

12:30-2:30pm GriefShare, C4

### Tuesday, October 3

9:30am Women's Ministry

Bible Study Leaders, FS

7pm AA Men's Meeting, FS

### Wednesday, October 4

9-11:30am Food Pantry

9:30am Women's Ministry Leadership, FS

12:30pm Al-Anon, C4

1pm Men's Bible Study, LR

6:30pm Choir Rehearsal, WC

8pm AA Meeting, FS

### Thursday, October 5

10am Prayer & Praise Service, CH

11am Al-Anon Meeting, FS



### Friday, October 6

Office Closed

### Saturday, October 7

8am Men's Bible Study, FS

4pm Worship, WC

## Save the Date! Reforfest

Oct. 29 - Hymn Festival @ 3pm

Oct. 29 - Oktoberfest @ 4pm

Oct. 30 - Luther Movie @ 10am

### Victory Lutheran Church

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VICTORY  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

# CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

»» EDEN TO SINAI »»

Sept. 30 & Oct. 1, 2023

"God's Faithfulness Over Time"

Exodus 1:8-14; 3:1-15

THE  
PULSE

Connect with us!





## Simple, but it can change your day.

It is so rewarding being on the Daily Hope "backstage" and see how this ministry has impacted so many lives. I myself feel blessed to watch them all as I edit and record them. I would like to share with you some of the comments we receive every day. If you don't know where to start your **God Time**, I highly recommend you to experience the **Daily Hope** devotionals.

**Helga Kofoed**  
We so appreciate having this Daily Hope... As we watch and share it Daily... our numbers are growing. Usually in the 20's, but yesterday we had a total of 30,

**@Llahma** • 2 weeks ago  
Listening over and over to fathom Gods grand plan specifically for me. But need to remember it's not about me.... It's about God!

**@lindaguy2957** • 3 weeks ago  
Couldn't do this life without our loving, precious Lord and our brothers and sisters in Christ! ❤️

**@patriciadegroot6190** • 3 weeks ago  
Dr. Kristin, I listened to this video four times before I caught it all! Very interesting! I will now go read Psalm 42! We are blessed to have U! Thank U for reminding us of our rich heritage in Jesus!

**Kathy Vicchy**  
Thank you for today's daily hope!!

**@marybranstad5138** • 8 days ago  
I needed this reassurance today. Thank you, Pastor Todd!

**@GloriaDibley-ok7bi** • 4 weeks ago  
Love ending prayers on Daily Hope!

**@beverlylocke9318** • 1 month ago  
Always joyful because I am His child.

**Melissa Walker**  
Definitely needed that message tonight. Thank you and God bless.  
Love Reply Hide 1w

**@suetramer9516** • 12 days ago  
This was so wonderful to hear about how Holy our Father is. Thank you. ❤️

**@user-up4uj4vd6s** • 5 days ago  
Had to watch twice to get the full impact. Thank you thank you thank you for the kindencouragement

**@user-vk7sw2ps3l** • 1 month ago  
Praise God, His love endures forever!

**@dianeadams7761** • 7 days ago  
Much needed right now.

Why not become a part of the Daily Hope family as well? Text **victory** to **888-897-5573** to receive them daily or visit [victorylutheran.com/daily-hope](http://victorylutheran.com/daily-hope)

Dr. Alisson Unglaub - Online Campus Director

## Weekly Worship: A/V Tech — Max Vokoun

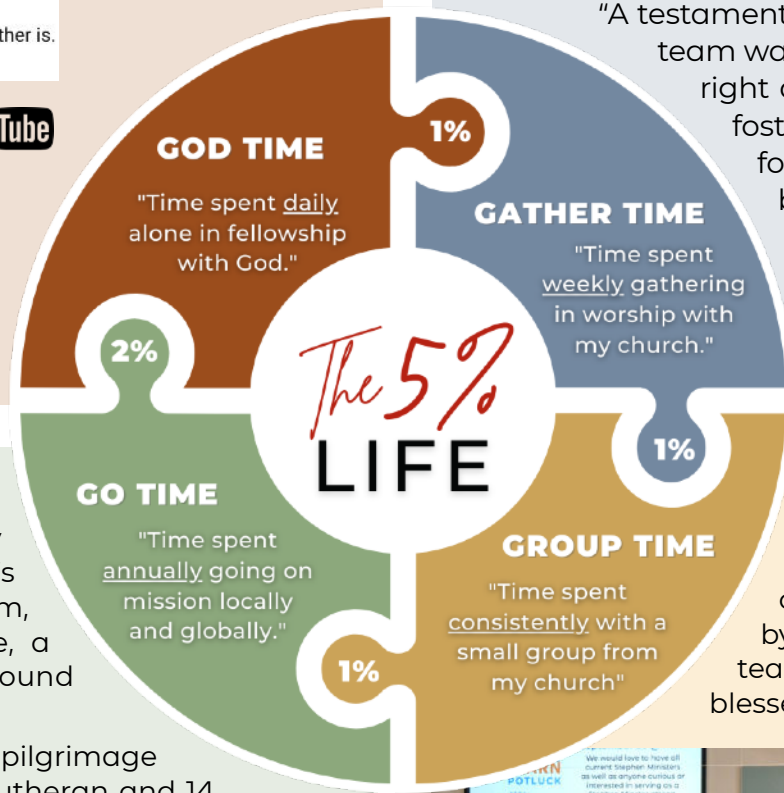
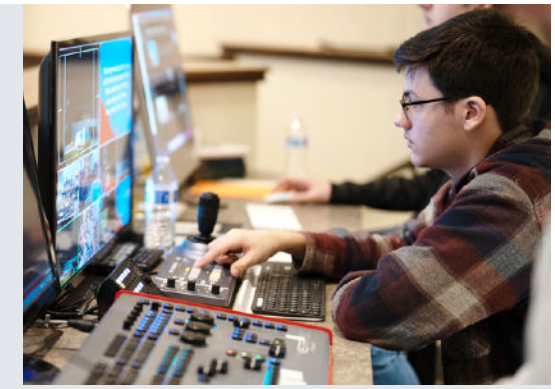
"Where to begin? Victory Lutheran Church hasn't just been a place of worship for me; it's been a beacon, guiding my journey in the AV and broadcast industries. Early in my spiritual and professional journey, I felt a calling to become a broadcast engineer. Serving at VLC by assisting with the AV equipment during services was more than just a job; it was a divine stepping stone towards that purpose."

"Navigating this path, the church provided more than just technical experience. In my quest to grow, the blessing of having an incredible coordinator was evident. He became a pillar of support, not just endorsing my skills on paper to help me join an esteemed broadcast engineers' organization, but also strengthening my faith by showing how community stands by one another. This unity, this very spirit of fellowship at VLC, magnified as I got the chance to network with industry peers and receive affirmation when applying for roles."

"A testament to this nurturing environment and the unwavering support of Gio and the VLC team was when I stepped into a full-time AV technician role at Mesa Community College right after high school. Today, the blessings keep flowing. VLC continues its legacy of fostering dreams and faith by sponsoring me and my fellow "Blue Crew" members for a premier broadcast convention. This isn't just about honing technical skills, but also about growing in fellowship, understanding our industry better, and building bridges of faith and expertise."

### How have you been living the 5% Life?

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). (300 word limit)



## Go Time: Italy Pilgrimage

A spiritual pilgrimage is a journey with the primary purpose of seeking a deeper connection with one's spiritual beliefs and faith. Unlike traditional tourism, where the focus may be on sightseeing or leisure, a spiritual pilgrimage is characterized by its profound spiritual significance and intention.

Pastor Todd and Anne Mathison are hosting this pilgrimage along with 13 other people connected with Victory Lutheran and 14 other friends from across the country. They embark on this Spiritual Pilgrimage October 4-14, following the footsteps of the Apostle Paul on his journey to Rome.

They will first land in Malta, starting with a prayer service at San Pawl Miliqui, a chapel opened only once per year but special access being given for our group. Then visits to St. Paul's Church and St. Paul's Catacombs, culminating in a boat excursion to the very location where the Apostle Paul's ship encountered disaster (read Acts chapter 27).

A ferry transports the team to the island of Sicily, exploring majestic Mt Etna, and then the cities of Mdina and Siracusa, where Paul visited with Christians on his way to Rome (read Acts chapter 28).

Then on toward Rome, where the group will retrace Paul's steps along the historic Appian Way, just as he did when meeting with the Elders from Rome at the Three Taverns. Then visits to the Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Wall, the San Callisto Catacombs, the Vatican museums, and Mamertine Prison where Paul endured captivity.

Victory Lutheran is pleased to offer spiritual pilgrimages such as this. Pray for our pilgrims as they follow Paul's journey to Rome, that they may find their faith deepened and spirits rejuvenated.



## Stephen Ministers — "The After People"

Have you ever heard of Stephen Ministry? If not, it may be because this very vital ministry here at Victory runs quietly and confidentially, in the background of our congregation. Our Stephen Ministry program fills a crucial caring need at Victory by providing an additional layer of crisis care and ongoing spiritual care through a team of well-trained, well-supervised, reliable laypeople. Victory Lutheran is very blessed to have one of the longest Stephen Ministry programs in the country. We currently have more than a dozen active Stephen Ministers, who extend the caring reach of the congregation far beyond our pastors.

Our Stephen Ministers are lay congregational members who have received a minimum of 50 hours of training. Then, through the work of the Holy Spirit, these mighty spiritual caregivers are able to provide unique one-to-one Christ centered care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, unemployment, hospitalization, terminal illness, divorce, relocation, loneliness, a spiritual crisis, and other life difficulties.

Our Stephen Ministers come from all walks of life, but they all share a passion for bringing Christ's love and care to people during a time of need. They help us carry out Christ's commandment to "Love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12 RSV) in a powerful and practical way. Your pastors invite you to get to know more about



Stephen Ministry and to pray for our Stephen Ministers. As you pray for them, remember our Stephen Ministers are often referred to as, "The After People" who come into a person's life immediately after a crisis has hit. Yet, just as Christ has never abandoned or forgotten us, our Stephen Ministers continue to provide care for their care receivers long after the initial crisis as is needed.

For more information contact Pastor Susan at [swestland@victorylutheran.com](mailto:swestland@victorylutheran.com).