

Sermon Notes

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. (200-300 word limit)

Daily Bible Readings (February 11-17)

Sun: Mark 9:1-8 Transfiguration
Mon: Mark 9:9-13 Elijah Has Come
Tues: Mark 9:14-29 Healing a Possessed Child
Wed: Mark 10:35-45 Ash Wednesday - Lent
Thurs: Matt. 16:24-25 Take up Your Cross
Fri: Psalm 95 Praise the Lord
Sat: John 13:1-20 Foot Washing

*Beginning on Ash Wednesday the readings selected come from The Easter Experience Lenten Devotional.

Life Notes

Kingdom, Power & Glory #6: "Open Mouth, Insert Foot" Mark 8:27-38; 9:2-8

Opener:

Who is your favorite Apostle of Jesus? Why? Is there something about their temperament that you can relate to? Is there some quality in this person that you admire?

Go Deeper:

1. Mark 9:2 says that "after 6 days Jesus took Peter, James, and John with Him and led them up a high mountain..." Reflect on what all the disciples have experienced in the 6 days leading up to the Transfiguration. (Refer to Mark 8:27-38)
2. Discuss what may have been going through the disciple's minds when in Mark 8:33 Jesus rebuked Peter. We don't know from Mark's text what Peter said to Jesus, but what do you think Peter may have said to cause such a reaction by Jesus?
3. Moses and Elijah appeared with Jesus during the Transfiguration (Mark 9:4) and were talking to Him. What do you imagine that they were discussing with Him? If you were Moses or Elijah what would you be asking Jesus?
4. Directly after the Transfiguration Jesus tells Peter, James, and John to "not tell anyone what they had seen" until the Son of Man had risen from the dead." (Mark 9:9). Why do you think Jesus said this to them? Would you have been able to keep this secret?

Live It:

1. Reflect on a time in your life when you were quick to react and slow to listen. What value is there in listening first to understand then to be understood?
2. In what ways do our own expectations of who God should be get in the way of Who God really is. What are some things we can do to safeguard against this happening?
3. The Transfiguration story once again reveals that Jesus is God. Jesus took all your sins to the cross with Him. Pray about how you can share this truth with someone who needs to hear it.

Upcoming Week

Sunday, February 11

7-11am Morning Fellowship, FH
8am Worship & Communion, WC
9:30am Worship, WC
10am Fair Trade Sale, FH
11am Worship, WC

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

Monday, February 12

9-11:30am Food Pantry
9:30am Grandparenting Course, FH
12:30pm GriefShare, C4
1:30pm Estate & Planned Giving Seminar, B7
5:30pm Grandparenting Course, FH

Tuesday, February 13

9:30am Esperanza Bible Study, FS
1:30pm Mary Bible Study, meet in home
2pm Naomi Bible Study, B7
7pm AA Men's Meeting, FS

Wednesday, February 14 - ASH WEDNESDAY

9-11:30am Food Pantry
12:30pm Al-Anon, C4
1pm Men's Bible Study, LR
1:30pm Women's Life Group, B7
4pm Ash Wednesday Service, WC
6pm Ash Wednesday Service, WC
8pm AA Meeting, FS

Thursday, February 15

10am Prayer Group, B7
11am Al-Anon Meeting, FS
11am Stephen Ministry, C4
2pm Africa Information Meeting, B7



ORCHARD AFRICA

Friday, February 16

Office Closed

Saturday, February 17

New Member Commissioning
8am Men's Bible Study, FS
9am Stephen Ministry Training, B7
4pm Worship, WC

SAVE THE DATE!

FEB 18: Talent Show @ 3:00pm
FEB 19: The Easter Experience Study @ 9:30am or 5:30pm
FEB 22: Dementia Seminar @ 1:00pm

Victory Lutheran Church

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KINGDOM POWER & GLORY



February 10 & 11, 2024

"OPEN MOUTH, INSERT FOOT"

Mark 8:27-33



Todd Mathison, Lead Pastor
Susan Westland, Chaplain
Renee Bennett, Pastoral Intern

Connect with us!



GOD TIME: LENT — WHAT WILL YOU GIVE UP OR ADD TO YOUR SPIRITUAL LIFE?

Pastor Susan Westland

As you know, we here at Victory are preparing to embark on a Lenten journey over the next 40 days. The pastors and staff are excited to be walking together with our Savior Jesus Christ and with you on a journey of transformation this Lenten season. This year on Ash Wednesday you will receive a 40-day devotional to help draw our hearts closer to the heart of God.

We know that traditionally, Lent is known as a solemn season of fasting, penance, and repentance. Ash Wednesday begins our journey to the cross with Jesus Christ. The 40 days of Lent remind us of Jesus' Baptism where, according to Mark 1, the Holy Spirit drives Him into the wilderness for 40 days.

According to Matthew and Luke, Jesus fasts during this time. At the end of the 40 days, He is tempted by the devil. Not only is He victorious over Satan, but according to Luke 4, Jesus "returned in the power of the Holy Spirit" where He goes to Galilee to begin His ministry.

The days of Lent have traditionally been "fast" days. The Sundays in Lent are considered "feast" days. The traditional Gospel Acclamation during Lent changes to "Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love." (Joel 2:13) During this season of Lent we want to follow Jesus' lead and return to the Lord our God by walking in the Spirit. I encourage you to remember fasting is not just giving up food and drink. It is a way of praying and desiring God above all else. This year, we encourage you to use the 40-day devotional as a way to "add something" to your spiritual life. Our prayer for you is that you will use this devotional as a daily guide to help you grow deeper in your faith. We pray also for the Holy Spirit to use this devotional to strengthen your covenant relationship with God so that we, like our Lord, may return to ministry after Easter filled with the power of the Holy Spirit!



GATHER TIME:

Feb. 14, Ash Wednesday 4pm & 6pm

(No Soup Supper)

We invite you to come and join us on this powerful Lenten journey as we discover what God did to win our hearts. Each Wednesday evening, we will explore five powerful promises of God that reveal His plan to rescue us from sin, evil and death. This is the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ!



**Lenten Worship on Wednesdays
February 21-March 20, 4pm only**

We will be serving Soup Suppers following the 4:00pm worship service. Gluten-free option available. Please bring a pre-cut dessert to help support Lenten Suppers. Listed by the first initial of your last name.

February 21 A-L
February 28 M-Z



**The Easter Experience Study begins Feb. 19
Mondays @ 9:30am or 5:30pm**

Once you experience the story of Easter, absolutely everything in life changes. This unique, DVD-driven study brings the passion and resurrection of Jesus to life through dramatic storytelling and challenging teaching. It consists of six-sessions done in a highly cinematic style. Study Guides and table discussions will help you dig deeper.

Seeking Table Leaders

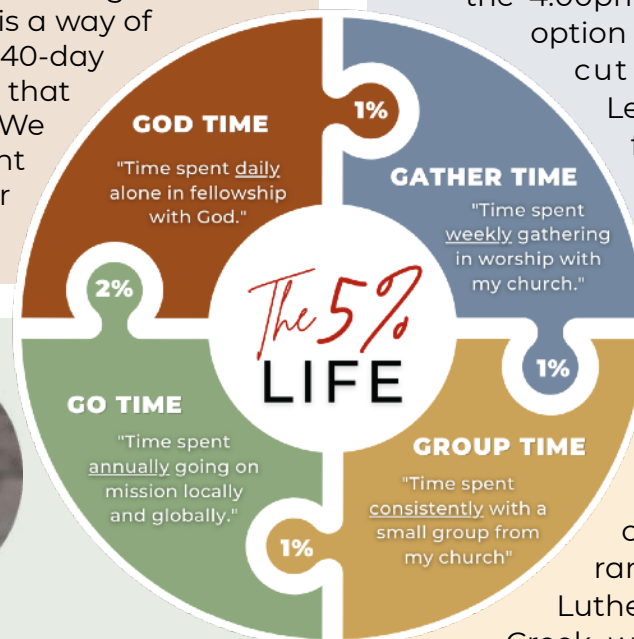
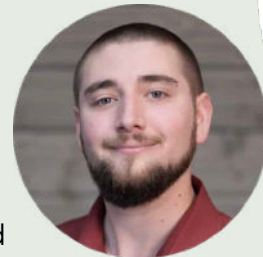
Table Leaders needed to facilitate the course. If you are willing to help, sign up at the Welcome Desk.

GO TIME: Intentional Grandparenting Gio Begano

As I have been running the technical side of our Monday Grandparenting Matters Course I have been reflecting on the discipling my own Grandmother has done for me throughout my life. After hearing the tips and tools that are recommended throughout the course, I see that my "Nana," as I call her, was quite intentional in her time with me. I spent most of the summers with my Nana when I was a kindergartner up until I was in middle school, and we always had a routine. When I would arrive in the morning, she would always start with a morning devotional that she would invite me to join in. After lunch we would sit down and check what the scripture of the day was on biblegateway.com,



and she would explain what the context of it was for me, and what it meant to her. When I was older my Nana bought me a new Bible, and had me join in a daily reading session with her, with a discussion following after. Being a part of the course has made me really appreciate the time and effort my Nana put into not just exposing me to the scripture, but in showing me how much she genuinely loved the Lord, and what it means to have faith in Him. I hope the courses will equip those at Victory with the tools to do the same, and continue fostering the faith for generations to come!



GROUP TIME: New Evening Bible Study Group - Feb. 19 Judy Hershey

I live in Mesa year-round. God blessed me with 2 wonderful daughters and 6 grandchildren. My husband and I will celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary this year. My husband is a cattle rancher. I work teaching special needs children. We have both been Lutherans since infant baptism. We attended Saving Grace in Queen Creek where I started a children's ministry program. However, I missed singing in a choir. So we decided to return to Victory where I could once again sing and praise my Lord!

I wanted to attend a Bible Study, but all the studies were during the day. When I heard about the study on *Ten Women of the Bible* I knew the Lord was leading me to start an evening study. I trust He will lead the group to decide how often we will meet. I am inviting anyone who is interested for a **"Meet & Greet" on Monday, February 19 at 6:30pm in the courtyard Luther Room.** Sign up at the Welcome Desk.



WOMEN'S MINISTRY BIBLE STUDY

Winter Schedule (October-April)

2nd Tuesday of the month • February 13

Groups meet individually once a month studying *Ten Women of the Bible* by Max Lucado.

Esperanza Bible Study, 9:30am, Fireside Room
Mary Bible Study, 1:30pm, meet in home
Naomi Bible Study, 2:00pm, Room B7

Summer Schedule (May-September)

2nd Tuesday of the month

All groups meet together at Victory once a month at 9:30am. Bible Study topic selected by Pastor or leader.

Contact the office at 480-830-5024 for more information.

