

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 (April 7-13)

Sun:	Acts 1:1-14	Commissioned
Mon:	Acts 1:15-20	The Fate of Judas
Tues:	Acts 1:21-26	Addition of Matthias
Wed:	Acts 2:1-13	Pentecost
Thurs:	Acts 2:14-21	Peter Preaches
Fri:	Acts 2:37-42	Repentance & Baptism
Sat:	Acts 2:43-37	The Early Church

*The readings selected come from the Narrative Lectionary calendar.

Life Notes

Power of the Holy Spirit #1: "Commissioned" Acts 1:1-14

Opener:

Briefly share a time when you had to change expectations for your life.

Go Deeper:

1. What was the disciples' expectation when they asked Jesus about restoring the kingdom to Israel, and how did Jesus redirect their focus? (Acts 1:6-7)
2. What did Jesus promise the disciples before His ascension, and why was this promise significant for their ministry? (Acts 1:8)
3. What instructions did Jesus give to the disciples regarding their mission as witnesses, and how does this relate to our role as witnesses today? (Acts 1:8)
4. What was the significance of Jesus' ascension for the disciples, and how did they respond immediately afterward? (Acts 1:9-12)
5. Why was it important for the disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit, and what did their devotion to prayer during this time signify? (Acts 1:14)

Live It:

1. How can we identify and let go of old goals or expectations that might hinder us from embracing new opportunities or seasons in our lives?
2. What steps can you take this week to embrace your role as a witness for Christ in your sphere of influence?
3. How can you deepen your prayer life to seek God's direction and empowerment during seasons of waiting or uncertainty?
4. How does the promise of Jesus' continued presence through the Holy Spirit encourage us as we face new challenges or transitions in life?
5. What is God saying to you?
6. What specifically are you going to do about it this week?

Upcoming Week

Sunday, April 7
Communion Weekend
Noisy Offering
 7-11am Morning Fellowship, FH
 8am Worship & Communion, WC
 9:30am Worship, WC
 11am Contemporary Worship, WC
 12pm Meet & Greet Worship Team, FH

Monday, April 8
 9-11:30am Food Pantry

Tuesday, April 9
 8:30am-2:30pm Quilters, FH
 9:30am Esperanza Study, FS
 1:30pm Mary Bible Study, meet in home
 2pm Naomi Bible Study, FS
 6:30pm Women's Bible Study, LR
 7pm AA Men's Meeting, FS

Wednesday, April 10
 8:30am-12:30pm Quilters, FH
9am Heritage Quilt Presentation, FH
 9-11:30am Food Pantry
 12:30pm Al-Anon, C4
 1pm Men's Bible Study, LR
 1pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, WC
 1:30pm Women's Life Group, B7
 4pm I-HELP, C4
 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal, WC
 8pm AA Meeting, FS

Thursday, April 11
 10am Prayer Group, B7
 11am Al-Anon Meeting, FS
2:30pm Singles Ministry Kick-Off Event, FH
 4pm I-HELP, C4

Friday, April 12
 Office Closed

Saturday, April 13
 8am Men's Bible Study, FS
 4pm Worship, WC



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

UPCOMING

April 14-21: Family Promise Host Week
 April 18: Dementia Seminar @ 1pm
 April 21: Piano Duo Concert @ 3pm

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POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



April 6 & 7, 2024
"Commissioned"
 Acts 1:1-14



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

Connect with us!



GOD TIME: "Who I am is God's gift to me; Who I become is my gift to God."

Ann Bricker

In 2018, Pastor Lien invited me to go on the Mission Trip. I went home and asked my husband what he thought of the idea. I had never been out of North America. He said it would be a wonderful experience! So, I went back to church the same day and signed up.

We met Pastor "Happy Boy" who did everything at his church — greeter, pianist and preacher. They enjoyed singing for us and were very good at it. They really had very little and yet, they had everything. They had smiles on their faces and I felt very welcome with their smiles and hugs.

The township that we went every day to minister to the students was very large and poor. An entire generation is essentially missing due to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. What to call the things they live in — hut, hovel, tin shed, shack, shanty? How about Home?— because that is what it is to them.

We visited a preschool and an elementary school. The kids were very inquisitive about what we had in our pockets. They were especially excited when we took a picture of them and they could see themselves. They were well mannered. The superintendent was proud to say that they are able to talk about Christianity in their schools.

As we left the area on Thursday, the three Pastors thanked us for our sacrifices in coming. I never felt that I had sacrificed anything for this trip. It was a trip of a lifetime for me and I felt that I was giving back some of what I have been given in my life.

My graduation motto in 1960 was: "Who I am is God's gift to me; Who I become is my gift to God." It has become more meaningful to me the older I get. I thank God every day for the gifts He has given me.



**GATHER TIME: Noisy Offering This Weekend
Let's Make Some Noise!**

This is our first Noisy Offering of the year which will provide supplemental scholarships for those who wish to go on the South Africa Mission Trip this September. We hope to offer scholarships up to 25% of the total cost for those who need assistance. This is one way you can participate even if you cannot make the trip. Your generosity can help others to go in your place.



Let's make some noise!

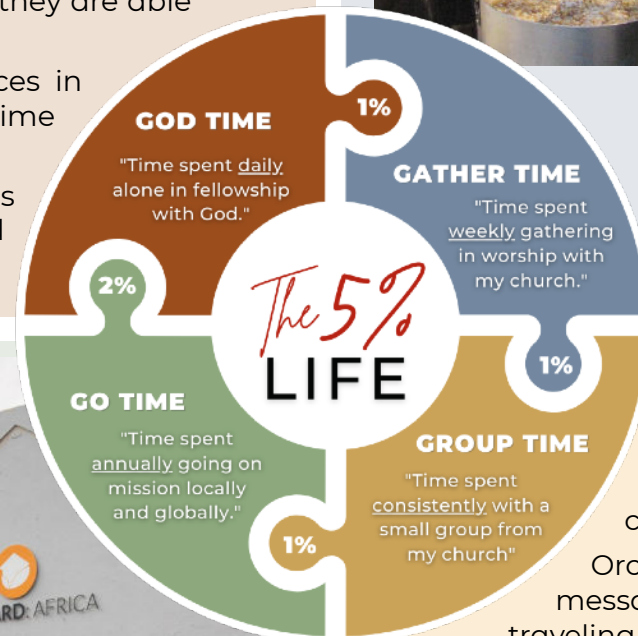
NOISY OFFERING

APRIL 6 & 7

Proceeds to South Africa Mission Trip Scholarships

Perhaps you are unable to go this year, but your generosity can help others to go in your place.

orchardafrica.org



GO TIME: Impact Partner

Victory Lutheran is now entering a 1 year partnership with Orchard: Africa to continue provide ongoing support for the Impact Gathering Center. Impact Centers are a key component in spreading the love of Christ to the ends of the earth! Each Impact Center typically works with 10 local villages and provides a safe place for the local villagers to learn about essential skills in small-scale agriculture, early childhood education, small business development, orphan care, church strengthening, programs for women, young parent workshops, future leaders development programs, and it is a networking and gathering place for pastors. Ongoing costs for running an Impact Center is \$300,000 a year. Victory has committed to raising \$20,000 toward supporting the North West Africa Impact Center. Please pray about how you can make an impact by contributing financially toward this partnership.

OWN THIS IMPACT
MAKE IT PERSONAL, MAKE IT YOURS

ORCHARD: AFRICA

CAMPAIGN TO FUND THE IMPACT CENTER

LEARN MORE AT VICTORYLUTHERAN.COM **SOUTH AFRICA**

**GROUP TIME: Africa Mission Trip > September 5-16, 2024
What kind of person are you?**

"There are three kinds of passionate people: Dreamers, Visionaries, and Missionaries. A Dreamer wishes the world were different. The Visionary understands how the world could be made different. The Missionary makes a difference in the world." - David A. Posthuma

Orchard: Africa is looking for people who have a heart to serve Jesus, to bring His message of love to a broken world and to holistically care for the vulnerable. Victory will be traveling to the Northwest providence of South Africa. Mahikeng is a small city surrounded by multiple rural villages. The pace of life is slow and steady, and relationships are very important. The more rural areas can have difficulty feeding their families, finding quality education, and getting the care they need when they are sick. This is why building a centralized Impact Center has been so critical.



You will be able to visit the Impact Center that Victory helped to fund. Seeing the conditions of a rural village may first be a little shocking to you, but walking through and seeing the abundance of smiles, laughter and families helps you see the strong sense of community and will likely change the way you see the image of God in others. Prayerfully consider traveling with us. The cost is approximately \$3,800-\$4,000 depending on air fare. A \$200 deposit is due with registration with the remaining balance due on June 5th. Pick up a registration brochure at the Welcome Desk.

**Mission Trip Information Meeting & Lunch
Sunday, April 28 @ 12:15pm**

Explore the possibilities, ask questions, and discover how you can contribute to a spiritual and sustainable impact in an area of our world that has great need.

RSVP at the Welcome Desk. If you have questions about the trip or how you can help someone else go please contact:

Renee Bennett, Pastoral Intern | rbennett@victorylutheran.com
480-830-5024 xt. 115

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." - Matthew 28:18-20