

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 (March 17-23)

Sun: Mark 15:33-41
Mon: Romans 8:14-17
Tues: Jeremiah 22:13-23
Wed: Philippians 1:29
Thurs: John 6:60-71
Fri: James 2:8-13
Sat: Psalm 124

*During Lent, the readings selected are taken from The Easter Experience Lenten Devotional.

Life Notes

The Ultimate Question #5: "Accepted By A Few" Mark 15:21-22, 33-39

Opener:

Name your favorite conspiracy theory.

Go Deeper:

1. Do you think the human tendency is to accept beliefs without question OR to reject beliefs without question? Why do you think this is?
2. What does it mean to discern fact from fiction?
3. How does the transformation of Simon the Cyrene from an observer to a participant in Jesus' story symbolize the journey of a believer? What can we learn from his experience?
4. Explore the significance of the Roman centurion's declaration, "Surely this man was the Son of God." How does his confession challenge our understanding of faith and authority?
5. Considering the bystanders at the cross, Simon the Cyrene and the Roman centurion, how do their encounters with Jesus challenge our preconceived notions about who is receptive to the Gospel?

Live It:

1. Have you ever encountered skepticism or doubt regarding your faith? How did you respond, and what helped you navigate through it?
2. Discuss the role of evidence and personal investigation in shaping our beliefs. How can we cultivate a balance between critical thinking and openness to spiritual truths?
3. What steps can you take this week to examine the evidence for Christianity?
4. What is God saying to you?
5. What specifically are you going to do about it this week?

Upcoming Week

Sunday, March 17

7-11am Morning Fellowship, FH
8am Worship & Communion, WC
9:30am Worship, WC
11am Worship, WC
3pm St. Paddy's Shindig!

Monday, March 18

9-11:30am Food Pantry
9:30am Easter Experience, FH
12:30pm GriefShare, C4
5:30pm Easter Experience, FH

Tuesday, March 19

3pm Council Meeting, FS
6:30pm Women's Bible Study, LR
7pm AA Men's Meeting, FS

Wednesday, March 20 - LENTEN WORSHIP

9-11:30am Food Pantry
12:30pm AI-Anon, C4
1pm Men's Bible Study, LR
1pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, WC
1:30pm Women's Life Group, B7
4pm Lenten Worship, WC
5pm Soup Supper, FH (Desserts M-Z)
6:30pm Choir Rehearsal, WC
8pm AA Meeting, FS

Thursday, March 21

10am Prayer Group, B7
11am AI-Anon Meeting, FS
11am Stephen Ministry, C4

Friday, March 22

Office Closed

Saturday, March 23

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



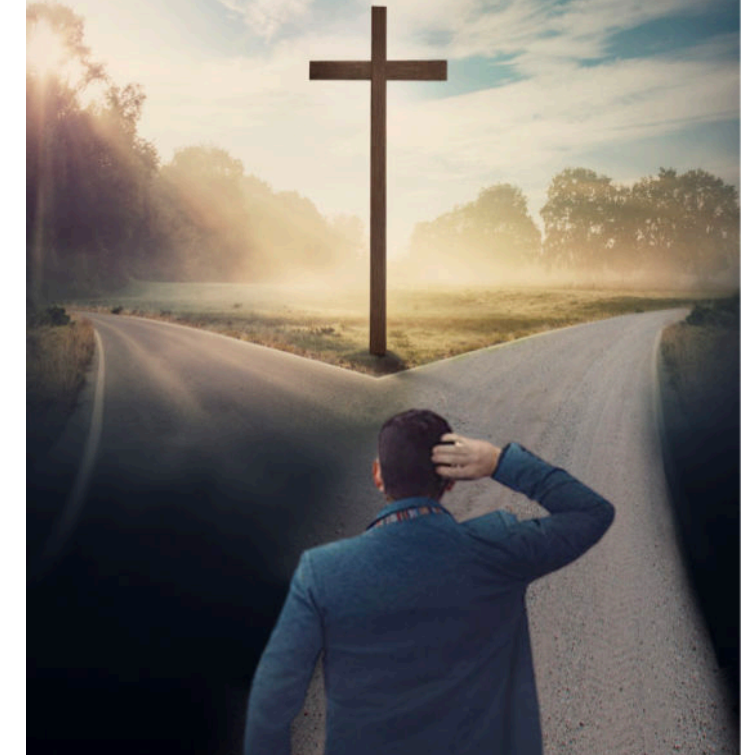
HANDEL'S
Messiah
CHOIR, SOLOISTS &
ORCHESTRA
SUN, MARCH 24, 3:00PM
One of the most well-known and well-loved pieces around the world tells the story of Jesus Christ from being foretold by prophets to His birth, death and resurrection.

VICTORY
LUTHERAN CHURCH
*First performance March 23 @ 7:00pm at Paradise Valley UMC

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VictoryLutheran.com

 VictoryLutheran_Guest
Password: Victory_46

The ULTIMATE Question



March 16 & 17, 2024
"Accepted By A Few"
Mark 15:21-22, 33-39



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

Connect with us!





GOD TIME: "Lead Us Not Into Temptation"

Temptations seem to be around every corner. What tempts you? A plate of delicious sweets? Clicking on the wrong link while surfing the internet? Expanding a simple misunderstanding into an outright lie? Spending money reserved for another part of the budget?

Jesus was tempted but withstood the onslaught on your behalf. His model prayer can encourage and strengthen you.



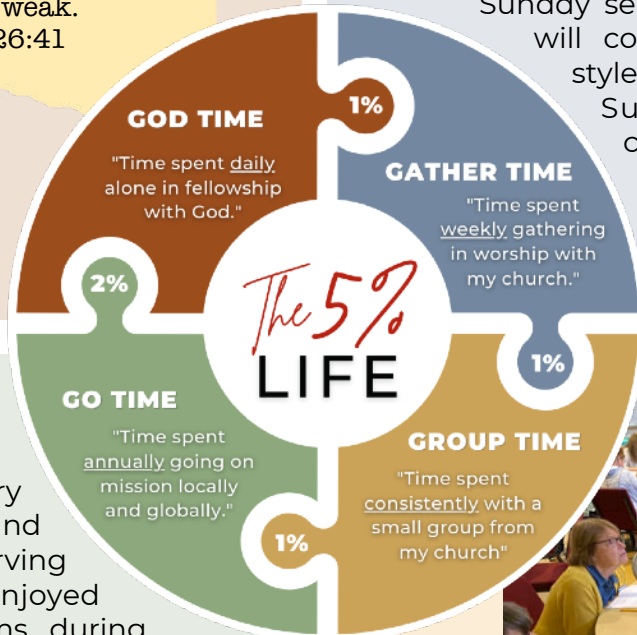
Return, O Lord, and rescue me. Save me because of your unfailing love. Psalm 6:4

Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak. Matthew 26:41

GATHER TIME: 11:00am Contemporary Worship Coming soon — begins April 7th!

Following Easter, the 11:00am service will shift from traditional to contemporary music, led by a praise team under the guidance of Jackie Jewel. This new service has been a long-requested and carefully planned endeavor. While contemporary worship has been a part of Victory for over twenty years, it hasn't been present at our Mesa campus for over seven years. So, its return is eagerly awaited.

It's important to note that traditional worship remains the cornerstone of Victory's worship experience. This is our primary focus. We're not aiming to "blend" traditional and contemporary styles. Our Saturday service at 4:00pm and Sunday services at 8:00am and 9:30am will continue to feature traditional styles with excellence. The 11:00am Sunday service will adopt a contemporary style, also delivered with excellence.



GO TIME: Family Promise Annie K. Burris



It was time well-spent at a Family Promise event at Victory serving meals to two dear families, one mom with six children and another mom with three children. I relished every minute serving and operating in the gifts the Lord gave me. I really enjoyed encouraging and empowering the families, especially the moms, during these challenging times.

Another great benefit was working alongside an amazing team who were also operating in their gifts (big smile). Only my second time serving in this ministry, I was very grateful to serve alongside seasoned team members to lean on when process questions arose. Those on team included a Family Promise representative from Scottsdale as well as those "invisible" workers who gave their time preparing and delivering healthy delicious meals. Leftovers, if there were any, were happily given in gift containers to these families.

If you are thinking of "re-purposing" your skills, because we don't "retire" you know (another big smile), I would highly recommend serving at a Family Promise event. One is coming up soon!

**Upcoming Family Promise Host Week:
April 14-21, 2024**

**Look for the sign-up tables in the lobby
March 23/24 & April 6/7**

Kathy Michel, Host Coordinator
kmichel@victorylutheran.com



**GROUP TIME:
Easter Experience Study
Mondays @ 9:30 or 5:30pm
thru March 25**

