

Sermon Notes

We would love to hear your story!

If you have a story to share in The Pulse about healing, praise, gratitude, serving in a mission or ministry at Victory, share it at hello@victorylutheran.com. (300 word max)

Daily Bible Readings (May 4-10)

Sun:	Acts 6:1-7:2; 7:44-60	Community & Condemnation
Mon:	Acts 2:43-47	Life Among the Believers
Tues:	Acts 5:12-16	The Apostles Heal
Wed:	Acts 5:17-32	The Apostles are Persecuted
Thurs:	Acts 6:8-15	The Arrest of Stephen
Fri:	Acts 7:1-43	Stephen's Speech to the Council
Sat:	Acts 8:4-25	Phillip Preaches in Samaria

*The readings selected come from the Narrative Lectionary calendar.

Life Notes

Eyewitness News #3:
"Walk to Emmaus"
Luke 24:13-35

Opener:

Describe the circumstances around the furthest you have ever walked. How far did you walk? What was the reason for this long walk? Were you alone or with others? How did you feel on this walk — happy, sad, scared, excited, depressed? Did you learn anything from this experience?

Go Deeper:

1. What emotions do you think the two men were feeling as they were leaving Jerusalem behind and walking to Emmaus?
2. Why do you think the men could not immediately recognize Jesus when He appeared before them?
3. What misunderstanding did the men have about who Jesus was and what His mission was? What other scriptural texts can you find that show that others also misunderstand His mission?
4. Eyewitness accounts are important, but what other scriptural passages can you find that prophecy to the fact that Jesus would rise from the dead?

Live It:

1. Jesus is relentless in pursuing doubters. Describe a time when God has pursued you.
2. Luther described that we are simultaneously sinner and justified. Because of this, we need to constantly have Christ in our ear. While we are saved by the waters of baptism, we tend to forget this and the Enemy gets in our ear. What are some ways that you can ensure Christ is in your ear?
3. It was the breaking of the bread that caused the men to finally recognize Jesus. What does receiving the bread and wine at communion mean to you? Pray about who you can invite to church on a communion Sunday.

Upcoming Week

Sunday, May 4
Communion Weekend
7-11am Morning Fellowship, FH
8am Worship & Communion, WC
9:30am Worship, WC
11am Contemporary Worship, WC
11am Children's Church, NR
12:30pm Discovering Victory 101, B7

Monday, May 5
9-11:30am Food Pantry
10am S.A.F.E. Singles Event (off-site) Golfland, Bus leaves at 9:15am
12:30-2:30pm GriefShare, C4
4pm Confirmation Class, LR

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

Wednesday, May 7
9-11:30am Food Pantry
12:30pm Al-Anon, C4
1pm Men's Bible Study, LR
8pm AA Meeting, FS

Thursday, May 8
10am Prayer Group, B7
11am Al-Anon Meeting, FS
4:30pm S.A.F.E. Singles Event Bingo at Sunland Village

Friday, May 9
OFFICE CLOSED
7:30pm S.A.F.E. Singles Event (off-site) Camelot, Hale Theater, Bus leaves @ 6:30pm

Saturday, May 10
New Member Commissioning
8am Men's Bible Study, FS
4pm Worship, WC

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

Victory Lutheran Church
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Office Hours: Mon-Thurs, 8am-4pm
Closed on Fridays
VictoryLutheran.com

WiFi

VictoryLutheran_Guest
Password: Victory_46

EYEWITNESS
NEWS

MAY 3 & 4, 2025

WALK TO EMMAUS
Luke 24:13-35

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

Connect with us!

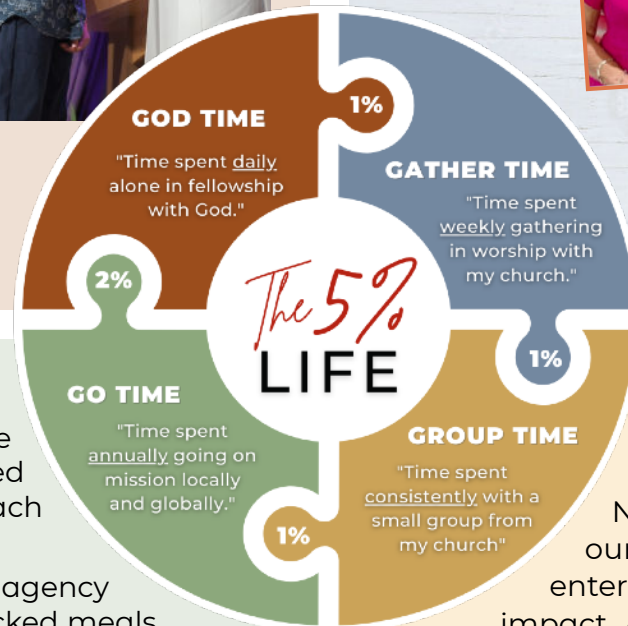
GOD TIME: Children's First Communion

April 17, 2025

On Maundy Thursday we celebrated the First Communion of six of our children: **Jayce Cervantes, Gracelyn Murillo, Ruby Wilson, Maverick Wilson, Kobe Wilson, and Tytus Lee**. What a wonderful witness these children were to God's promise of forgiveness found in His body and blood. Receiving their First Communion on the celebration of the Last Supper was very meaningful to them. This Passover meal that we call the Last Supper was the night that Jesus broke bread with His closest friends and explained that the bread was His body and the cup of wine was the New Covenant in His blood, shed for the forgiveness of all of our sins.

In order to be ready to receive their First Communion, these children along with their parents attended a First communion class where they learned that the Lord's Supper gives us the promise through the earthly elements of bread and wine that our sins are forgiven and that we are the passive recipients of God's forgiveness. We do nothing to deserve this. It's Christ's words that through His body and blood our sins are forgiven, that makes it so. Our faith and our conduct have nothing to do with the efficacy of the sacrament.

Please continue to pray for these children and all of our young ones here at Victory. Pray that God continues to bless us with His children as we faithfully follow His guidance in leading our Children's Church, First Communion classes and Confirmation.



GO TIME: Victory Foundation Supports Church Planting in Thailand

The Victory Lutheran Foundation turns the extraordinary generosity of God's people into long-term, kingdom impact. Estate bequests, memorials, and other planned gifts are invested—not spent—so the principal keeps working until Jesus returns. Each year the earnings are released to advance mission locally and around the world.

Among this year's awards is a **\$2,500 grant to Venture** (venture.org), a mission agency serving the most vulnerable in some of the world's toughest places. If you have packed meals with *Feed My Starving Children*, you have already partnered with *Venture*; they hand-deliver those packets into remote regions where food is scarce and persecution is real.

Through this Foundation grant, Victory Lutheran now has the joy of planting **two new churches in central Thailand**. *Venture* partners with local believers, pairing compassionate care with the proclamation of the gospel. As the Holy Spirit opens doors, new faith communities spring up—places where neighbors encounter Christ's love, hear His Word, and find lasting hope.

Kristen Willard of *Venture* shared her gratitude during a recent worship service: *Because of Victory's generosity, we anticipate two churches will be launched by year's end in the middle of Thailand, joining a Spirit-led movement of church planting that is taking root in that country. Praise God!*

Thank you, Victory family, for giving in ways that echo far beyond a single budget year. Your planned and estate gifts to the Foundation keep feeding the hungry, planting churches, and welcoming souls into God's kingdom.

To explore including Victory Lutheran in your will or trust, contact the church office or email legacy@victorylutheran.com.



GATHER TIME: Mother's Day — May 10 & 11

On this special weekend we like to recognize the women in our congregation for all they have done to share the love of God to others.

We INVITE ALL to wear a special hat or fancy outfit "Kentucky Derby style" to mark the occasion.



GROUP TIME: National Day of Prayer May 1, 2025

Thank you to everyone who came out to support the National Day of Prayer. Your presence and prayers for our nation, churches, families, schools, military, arts, entertainment, media, and government made a powerful impact. As we reflect on the 2025 theme, "Pour out to the God of Hope and be filled" (Romans 15:13), may we continue to seek God's guidance and hope for every area of our lives and communities.

