

## 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](mailto:hello@victorylutheran.com). (300 word max)

### Daily Bible Readings (July 27-August 2)

Sun: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 Wisdom of Man Not Required  
Mon: Judges 6:11-16 Gideon's Low Self-esteem  
Tues: Matthew 10:16-20 God Will Provide the Words  
Wed: Isaiah 50:4-5 His Word Will Sustain All  
Thurs: Psalm 119:9-16 Delight in His Word  
Fri: Isaiah 43:9-12 You Are My Witnesses  
Sat: Genesis 12:1-3 Call to Bless All People

\*The readings selected come from the Narrative Lectionary calendar.

## Life Notes

### God's Will, God's Way #7: "Who Me, Lord?" Exodus 3:10-4:19

#### Opener:

Share a time when someone who seemed like an "unlikely choice" ended up being perfect for the job.

#### Go Deeper:

*(Exploring the Bible)*

1. Read Exodus 4:10 again. What does Moses' honesty about his limitations teach us about how we should approach God with our concerns?
2. What does God's question "Who gave human beings their mouths?" reveal about His perspective on our limitations?
3. What emotions or fears might have been driving Moses to ask God to send someone else?
4. Read about God's anger in verse 14. Why do you think God's anger was kindled here specifically?
5. What does God's provision of Aaron teach us about how God works through our limitations? How does this reflect Paul's teaching in 1 Corinthians 12:21-22?

#### Live It:

*(Applying to Our Lives)*

1. What's your "speech impediment" - the thing that makes you feel like God couldn't possibly use you? How has this held you back from serving others for God?
2. Share about a time when you used a legitimate weakness as an excuse to avoid something God was calling you to do. What would it look like to move from "I can't because..." to "I'm weak in this area, but God can..."?
3. Are you currently trying to do something alone that God might want you to do in partnership with others?
4. What "staff" has God already put in your hands? (Your story, job, relationships, experiences, struggles) What would it look like to stop waiting for different tools and start using what you already have?
5. How can you guard against taking credit when God works through you despite your limitations?

## Upcoming Week

### Sunday, July 27

8:30-11am Morning Fellowship, FH  
8am Worship & Communion, WC  
9:30am Worship, WC  
11am Contemporary Worship, WC

### Monday, July 28

9-11:30am Food Pantry  
10am The Chosen, FH  
12:30pm GriefShare, C4  
6pm The Chosen, B7

**The CHOSEN**  
LAST SUPPER

### Tuesday, July 29

3pm Council Meeting, B7  
6:30pm Women's Bible Study, C1  
7pm AA Men's Meeting, C5

### Wednesday, July 30

9-11:30am Food Pantry  
10am Men's Bible Study, C1  
12:30pm Al-Anon, C4  
8pm AA Meeting, C5

### Thursday, July 31

10am Prayer Group, B7  
11am Al-Anon Meeting, C5

### Friday, August 1

OFFICE CLOSED

### Saturday, August 2

**COMMUNION WEEKEND**  
8am Men's Bible Study, C5  
4pm Worship, WC

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

### Victory Lutheran Church

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Office Hours: Mon-Thurs, 8am-4pm

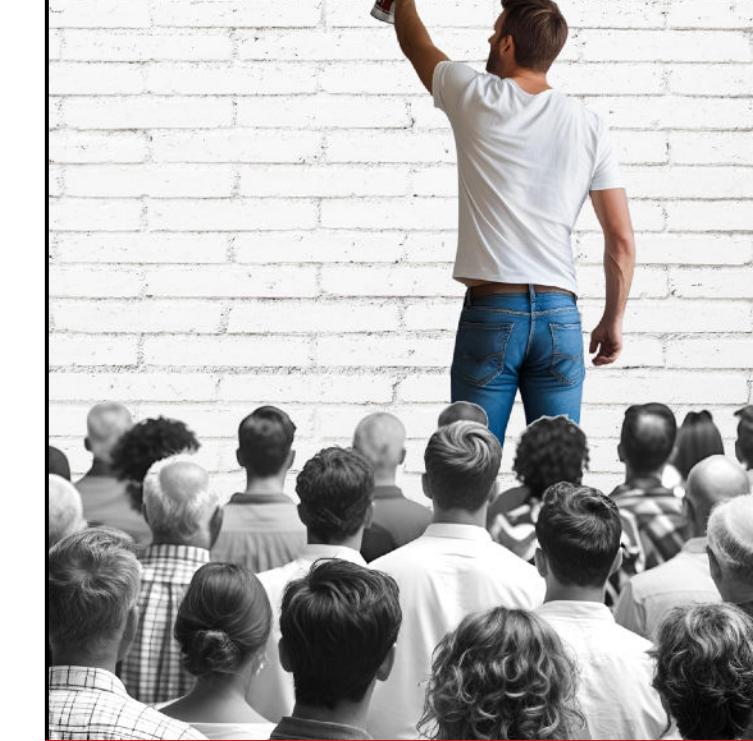
Closed on Fridays

[VictoryLutheran.com](http://VictoryLutheran.com)



VictoryLutheran\_Guest  
Password: Victory\_46

**GOD'S WILL**  
**GOD'S**  
**MY WAY**



July 26 & 27, 2025

## "Who Me, Lord?"

**Exodus 3:10-4:19**

  
**THE PULSE**

Todd Mathison, Lead Pastor  
Denton Bennet, Associate Pastor  
Susan Westland, Chaplain  
Renée Bennett, Discipleship Pastor



Connect with us!



## GOD TIME: Wake Up Call From God

### Cathy Tostenson

On June 29, 2021, while vacationing in Minnesota, my sister and I went out for ice cream. As we headed to the patio, I missed a stair and fell. An orthopedic doctor—there by chance rushed to help. I was taken to the hospital with two broken bones in my right leg and one in my left. Later, I was transferred to Minneapolis for surgery, where doctors warned I might never walk again.

I made it through the procedure, and a few days later I was moved to a rehabilitation center in Mankato. When I arrived, two red cardinals were perched in the tree outside my window. I truly believe God was showing me He was with me, sending loved ones to guide me through recovery.

Before the accident, I had started drifting away from God. That moment became my wake-up call. Since then, my faith has grown deeper and stronger.

Being in that facility felt like divine placement. I had grown up nearby, and family, friends, and high school classmates surrounded me with encouragement and prayers during my more than four month recovery. I never realized how many people truly cared.

Today, I am a stronger Christian. I walk with a walker and thank God daily for His guidance, His blessings, and the strength He gave me to heal. I will always be grateful for the wake-up call that brought me closer to Him.



## GO TIME: VLC Vision Team — A Fresh Wind of God's Leading

### Pastor Todd Mathison

This past week, twelve faithful leaders from our Church Council, staff, and congregation gathered for a three-day retreat to listen—to each other, to God's Word, and most importantly, to the Holy Spirit about where Victory Lutheran is being called next.

Our focus was simple but bold: **How is God calling wanting to extend His kingdom through Victory?** This includes strengthening our existing ministries and prayerfully discerning new people and places to reach with the good news of Jesus Christ. Together, we returned to the mission Jesus gave His church—to be and make Christ-centered disciples who lead others into God's mission frontiers.

The retreat was just the beginning. We've been preparing and praying. Now, the first action steps are being discerned. My prayer is that we, as a congregation, enter this next season with servant hearts, open hands, and a willingness to follow wherever God leads.

I am grateful for the twelve members of our Vision Team—their time, their wisdom, and their love for Christ's church. But this journey doesn't stop with them. *Victory Forward* is for all of us. Together, let's seek God's will... and do it in God's way... to the glory of God alone.

*"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans."*  
Proverbs 16:3 (NIV)



## GATHER TIME: Communion Next Weekend — August 2 & 3

At Victory, Communion is a highlight of our worship experience. This sacred meal, rooted in Jesus' Last Supper with His disciples, is where He declared, "This is my body" and "This is my blood."

The main reason we celebrate Communion is to embrace the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. Through this sacrament, our faith is fortified, and we are drawn closer to the body of Christ, both physically and spiritually. It's a tangible expression of God's grace, love, and mercy given to us in Jesus Christ.

**We celebrate Communion regularly at Victory — once a month at all services and every week at the 8:00am service.** Our "open communion" policy means you don't need to be a formal member of our congregation to participate; anyone who trusts in Jesus Christ for salvation is welcome at the Lord's Table.



## GROUP TIME: Answering the Call

### Lori Pilato, Stephen Minister

Do you know Lori's story? She's one of our Stephen Ministers at Victory, and her journey back to this role is both heartfelt and inspiring. For over 30 years, Lori served others as an occupational therapist—and even spent time as a Stephen Minister in Minnesota.

But everything changed when her husband was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. Lori became his full-time caregiver, walking alongside him through some of the hardest years of their lives. After he passed away, she found herself in a place of deep grief, wondering, "What's my purpose now?"

That question led her to prayer—and God gently began to answer. Through the support of a faithful friend, the encouragement of Pastor Todd's class, and the warmth of a Life Group that welcomed her

like family, Lori sensed God calling her back into care ministry. Not only did she say yes—she found healing, purpose, and a renewed sense of belonging in the process.

Her story is a beautiful reminder that even in our hardest seasons, God is still working, still calling, and still writing new chapters.

**Scan the QR code** to hear how Lori answered the call—and how you might too.



SCAN ME