

Sermon Notes

ALL SAINTS DAY

The weekend of November 1 & 2 we wish to honor those who have "gone home to the Lord" within the past year. Send names by October 26th to: kmichel@victorylutheran.com.

VETERANS DAY

On Veterans Day Weekend, November 8-9, we'd like to recognize our Veterans during our worship services by presenting a slideshow of those from our congregation who have served in the military. Please send a photo in uniform with your name, branch, and years served, to ehernandez@victorylutheran.com.

Life Notes

Forward Together #1:  
"Generosity That Finishes What We Start"  
Numbers 32:20-23

Opener:

What's one thing—big or small—that you're thankful God has given you this week?

Go Deeper: (Exploring the Bible)

1. Read Numbers 32:20–23. What does Moses' warning teach about faith and participation in God's work?

2. How does this passage redefine "sin" as spiritual withdrawal rather than just moral failure?

3. According to Matthew 6:19–24, what link exists between treasure and heart?

4. What does 2 Corinthians 9:6–8 reveal about cheerful giving and God's provision?

5. How does seeing generosity as worship transform your motivation to give?

Live It: (Applying to Our Lives)

1. Where are you tempted to "settle east of the Jordan"—enjoying God's gifts while staying on the sidelines?

2. What step of faith can you take this week in your giving, serving, or living generously?

3. How can giving become a joy instead of a duty?

4. In what ways has Jesus' generosity toward you changed how you view your own resources?

5. How can our Victory family model cheerful generosity together?

Daily Bible Readings (October 26-November 1)

Sun: Numbers 32:20–23 Promise With Participation

Mon: Numbers 32:24–33 Keeping Our Word In Community

Tues: Matthew 6:19–24 Where Your Treasure Is, Heart Follows

Wed: 2 Corinthians 9:6–15 Cheerful Giving As Worship

Thurs: Luke 21:1–4 The Widow's Offering

Fri: James 1:17–18 Every Good Gift Comes From Above

Sat: Romans 8:31–39 God's Ultimate Generosity In Christ

Upcoming Week

Sunday, October 19

"Meet A Pastor" (following each service)

8:30-11am Morning Fellowship, FH

8am Worship & Communion, WC

9:30am Worship & Children's Church, WC

11am Contemporary Worship & Children's Church, WC

12:15pm Small Group Leadership Training, B7

Monday, October 20

9-11:30am Food Pantry

10am Joining Jesus Study, FH

12:30-2:30pm GriefShare, C4

4pm Confirmation Class, C1

6pm Joining Jesus Study, FH

6pm S.A.F.E. Singles Event (off-site)

Andrew Webber Show, Bus leaves @ 4:30pm

Tuesday, October 21

8:30am-2:30pm Quilters, FH

3pm Council Meeting, B7

6:30pm "Seekers" Small Group, B7

7pm AA Men's Meeting, C5

Wednesday, October 22

8:30am-12:30pm Quilters, FH

9-11:30am Food Pantry

9am S.A.F.E. Singles Event (off-site)

Feed My Starving Children, Bus leaves @ 8am

10am Men's Bible Study, C1

12:30pm Al-Anon, C4

1:30pm AED & CPR Training, FH

8pm AA Meeting, C5

Thursday, October 23

10am Prayer Group, B7

11am Al-Anon Meeting, C5

3pm Foundation Meeting, B7

Friday, October 24

OFFICE CLOSED

7:30pm S.A.F.E. Singles Event (off-site)

The Beatles Show, Bus leaves @ 6:30pm

Saturday, October 25 - Refor-fest Weekend!

Operation Christmas Child begins in lobby

8am Men's Bible Study, C5

4pm Worship, WC

"Meet A Pastor" (following service)

5pm Oktoberfest, FH

Victory Lutheran Church

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VictoryLutheran\_Guest

Password: Victory\_46

CH = Chapel

FH = Fellowship Hall

C5 = Fireside Room

NR = Nursery

WC = Worship Center

C4 = Community Room

FORWARD TOGETHER

October 18 & 19, 2025

"Generosity That Finishes What We Start"

Numbers 32:20-23

THE PULSE

Todd Mathison, Lead Pastor

Denton Bennet, Associate Pastor

Renée Bennett, Discipleship Pastor

Connect with us!

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GOD TIME: New Sermon Series — Forward Together

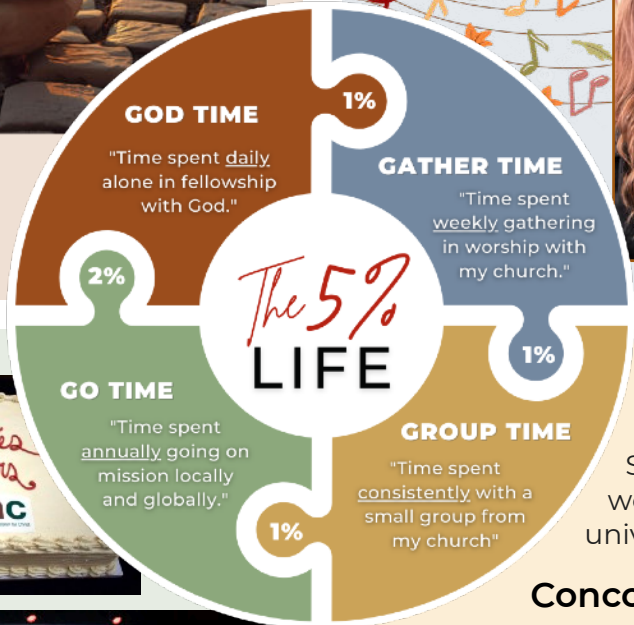
That's the invitation of our new sermon series, *Forward Together*, beginning this weekend. Just as Israel once stood on the banks of the Jordan River, poised to enter the land God had promised, we too stand at a threshold of faith. In Numbers 32, God warns His people not to stop short—not to settle for less than His full blessing. True generosity doesn't just start well; it follows through.

When we steward our time, talent, and treasure, we're not simply funding a mission — we're declaring our trust in the God of abundance. Like Moses, who turned from Egypt's fleeting wealth to pursue God's eternal reward, and like Martin Luther, who stood on Scripture rather than power or prestige, we are called to live by faith that reshapes our values and reorders our hearts.

At the Jordan River, God's people left stones as a memorial of His faithfulness. Every act of generosity we make today — every hour offered, gift given, or skill shared — is a stone of testimony that proclaims: God was faithful, and His people moved forward together.

So as we step into this new season, may we live as those who believe that in Christ there is always "more than enough." His presence goes before us. His promises never fail. And His abundance flows through His people—Forward Together.

As God has promised: **"I will be with you wherever you go."** - Joshua 1:9



GO TIME: LCMC — 25 Years of Faith and Mission  
Pastor Denton Bennet

The Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC) marked a significant milestone at its 25th Annual Gathering, bringing together representatives from its growing network of 1,034 member congregations. The event celebrated a quarter-century of faithful ministry while looking toward the future with renewed commitment.

A highlight of the gathering was honoring Mike Bradley's retirement as Service Coordinator and welcoming Julie Smith as his successor. This transition symbolized both gratitude for past leadership and confidence in the organization's continued mission.

The gathering devoted considerable attention to LCMC's founding story, featuring interviews and presentations from early pioneers who helped establish the movement. These reflections provided valuable perspective on the organization's growth and enduring vision.

The event's theme centered on 1 Corinthians 3:10-13, where Paul writes about building on the foundation of Jesus Christ. This passage challenged attendees to continue constructing their ministries on the solid foundation of the gospel, firmly rooted in the Lutheran Confessions. Particular emphasis was placed on the Theology of the Cross, a distinctive Lutheran understanding that finds God's power revealed through Christ's suffering and weakness rather than worldly glory. As LCMC enters its next chapter, the gathering reinforced the importance of remaining faithful to its gospel-centered, confessional identity while adapting to serve contemporary congregational needs.



GATHER TIME: Refor-fest Celebration!

**Next Weekend — October 25-26 (Remember to wear red)**

Please join us for our 2025 "Reforfest" — Reformation & Oktoberfest — an annual Victory celebration that combines some of the rich traditions of Lutheran Germany. This year enjoy delicious German cuisine, beverages and lively entertainment on Saturday evening at our very own Oktoberfest. On Sunday, Join us for a remarkable performance by our own Dr. Kristin Holton Prouty. Don't miss this unique blend of faith, culture and history, where we come together to commemorate the Reformation and its enduring legacy.

Saturday, October 25 @ 5pm | Oktoberfest

Part of our Refor-fest celebration in October includes the Oktoberfest celebration featuring German foods, Root Beer, and entertainment provided by accordions led by our beloved Ted & Marilyn Peterson. Victory will provide brats, buns, and Root Beer. **SIGN UP** at the Welcome Desk to let us know you are coming. If you are able to bring an appetizer, side dish, or dessert to share, that would be great!



Sunday, October 26 @ 3pm | Organ Concert  
"Bach and His Influences"

Come enjoy the sounds of Victory's Bigelow Opus 17 organ, which was built in the German Baroque style, much like the instruments that inspired Bach. Our Director of Worship and Music, Dr. Kristin Holton Prouty, will be sharing music from Bach as well as some of the composers that influenced him. Entrance is free, but donations to continue the music ministry at Victory Lutheran are greatly appreciated. Reception to follow.

GROUP TIME: A Joyful Collaboration in Worship

Victory is thrilled to welcome the Concordia Symphony Orchestra in worship this Sunday! Part of their mission is sharing quality classical music in sacred spaces, and we are blessed to have them join us. For more information about the orchestra and university, or to support their mission, please visit their table in the lobby.

Concordia Symphony Orchestra to Perform in Phoenix Area

The Concordia Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Dr. Jeff Held, is well-known for its involvement in PBS specials airing across the United States, tours (Korea/Japan last year), and Christian mission. CSO will perform a free concert this afternoon, Sunday, October 19, at Risen Savior Lutheran Church in Chandler at 2:00pm. This concert will be the newest installment in the well-regarded "cathedral concert series," in which orchestral masterworks are performed in sacred spaces, guiding listeners to devotional connections. In addition to some shorter works, two major works will be performed — Haydn's Symphony No. 22 ("The Philosopher") and Hindemith's *Mathis der Maler Symphony* (based on the stunning Isenheim Altarpiece). It will provide musical references to several Christian vocations — artist, painter, teacher/debater, caretaker, communicators, and our everyday tasks as followers of Christ. This concert is a wonderful opportunity for an unforgettable and unique encounter with orchestra music.

