

Sermon Notes

YTD STATEMENTS
Year-to-Date Statements have been mailed out.
If you have corrections, please email
Kathy so that we may fix them before
the end of the year. Thank you!
kmichel@victorylutheran.com



Life Notes

**Forward Together #5:
"Marking God's Faithfulness"
Joshua 3:7-8, 14-17, 4:1-7**

Opener:

Name one small act of kindness someone did for you that you still remember.

Go Deeper: *(Exploring the Bible)*

1. What stands out to you in Joshua 3 and 4 about God's timing?
2. Why do you think God required the priests to step into the water before the miracle?
3. How do the "stones" function as testimony in Joshua 4?
4. Read 1 Chronicles 29:10-14. How does this shape your understanding of stewardship?
5. What does 2 Corinthians 9:13-14 teach us about generosity as proclamation?

Live It: *(Applying to Our Lives)*

1. Where is God calling you to "step into the water" right now?
2. What fears keep you from offering your time or talent in service?
3. Where could you serve at Victory this fall?
4. How has someone else's generosity impacted your faith?
5. What "stone of testimony" is God inviting you to lay down this week?

Daily Bible Readings (November 16-22)

Sun:	Joshua 3:7-17	Stepping Into the Jordan
Mon:	Joshua 4:1-7	Stones That Speak
Tues:	Joshua 4:23-24	Why God Does Miracles
Wed:	1 Chronicles 29:10-14	The Steward's Heart
Thurs:	2 Corinthians 9:6-11	Generosity and Blessing
Fri:	Matthew 5:14-16	Let Your Light Shine
Sat:	1 Peter 4:10-11	Serving by God's Strength

Upcoming Week

Sunday, November 16**MISSION & MINISTRY FAIR**

"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

12:30pm Annual Congregational Meeting, WC**Monday, November 17**

9-11:30am Food Pantry
12:30-2:30pm GriefShare, C4
4pm Confirmation Class, C1

**Tuesday, November 18**

8:30am-2:30pm Quilters, FH
3pm Council Meeting, B7
6:30pm "Seekers" Small Group, B7
7pm AA Men's Meeting, C5

Wednesday, November 19

8:30am-12:30pm Quilters, FH
9-11:30am Food Pantry
10am Men's Bible Study, C1
12:30pm Al-Anon, C4
1pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, WC
6:30pm Choir Rehearsal, WC
8pm AA Meeting, C5

CH = Chapel
FH = Fellowship Hall
C5 = Fireside Room
NR = Nursery
WC = Worship Center
C4 = Community Room

Thursday, November 20

10am Prayer Group, B7
11am Al-Anon Meeting, C5
11:30am Stephen Ministry, C4
3pm Foundation Meeting, B7

Friday, November 21

OFFICE CLOSED
6pm Orchard Zoolights (off-site)
Bus leaves @ 5:30pm

Saturday, November 22

8am Men's Bible Study, C5
9am-1pm KBM Fall Market, parking lot
4pm Worship, WC
"Meet A Pastor" (following service)
8pm S.A.F.E. Singles Event (off-site)
The Voice of Whitney, Bus leaves @ 7pm

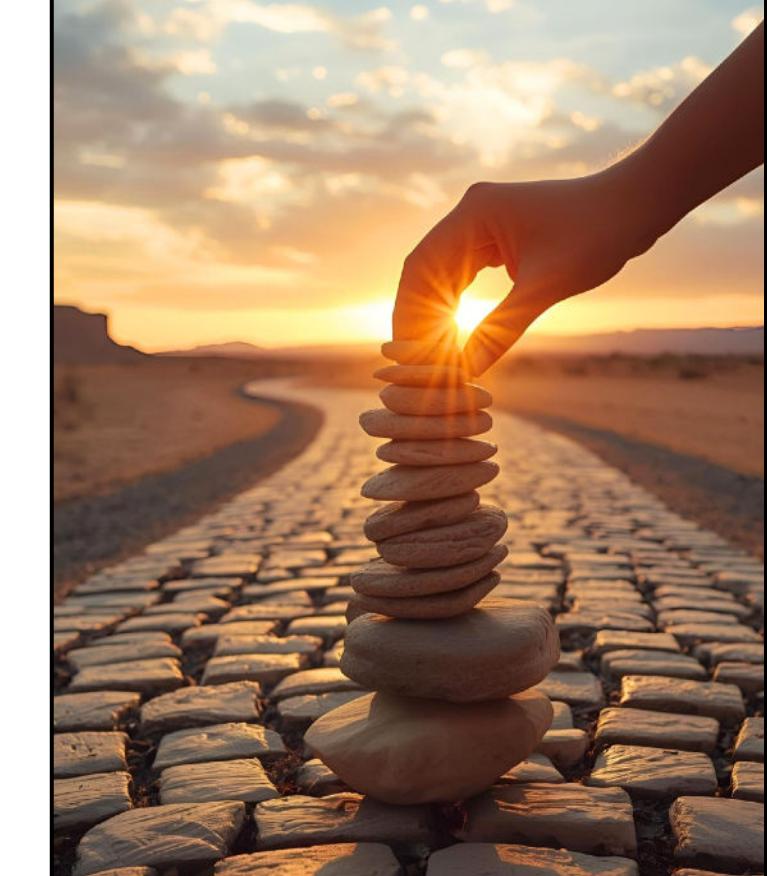
Victory Lutheran Church

5946 E. University Drive, Mesa, AZ 85205
hello@victorylutheran.com
480-830-5024 | VictoryLutheran.com



VictoryLutheran_Guest
Password: Victory_46

FORWARD  **TOGETHER**



November 15 & 16, 2025

"Marking God's Faithfulness"

Joshua 3:7-8, 14-17, 4:1-7

 THE PULSE

Todd Mathison, Lead Pastor
Denton Bennet, Associate Pastor
Renée Bennett, Discipleship Pastor
Dirk Duhlstine, Chaplain



Connect with us!
   

GOD TIME: Serving as Worship

Pastor Todd Mathison

There's a moment near the end of King David's life that always humbles me. He gathers God's people to bring their resources for the building of the Temple—an act of worship so overflowing that it moves David to pray: **"Everything comes from You, and we have given You only what comes from Your hand"** (1 Chronicles 29:14). That's the heartbeat of a steward. A steward sees everything differently.

Steward: it's not a word we use often, but biblically, it's central to understanding our lives and purpose.

A steward is someone who manages what belongs to someone else. That's us. Everything we carry—our time, abilities, energy, passions, days—comes from God's hand and ultimately returns to His glory.

And here's the surprise: generosity isn't about losing anything. It's about returning what already came from God. When we see life through the eyes of a steward, something shifts. Giving becomes joy, not pressure. David didn't say, "We have to give." He said, "We get to give." Stewardship stops feeling like paying God back and starts feeling like joining Him in His work.

Right now at Victory, our Ministry Fair is a living picture of that truth—tables covered with opportunities to worship God by serving His people: worship, care, missions, children, hospitality, tech, outreach, Bible studies. Each one is a stone of faithfulness...an invitation from God Himself.

So take a moment. Walk slowly. Pray before you choose. Ask the Lord, "What's my next step serving in Your Kingdom?" And when He nudges—step into it. Make it happen.



GO TIME: When God Says, "Go!"

Barb Nelson, Stephen Minister

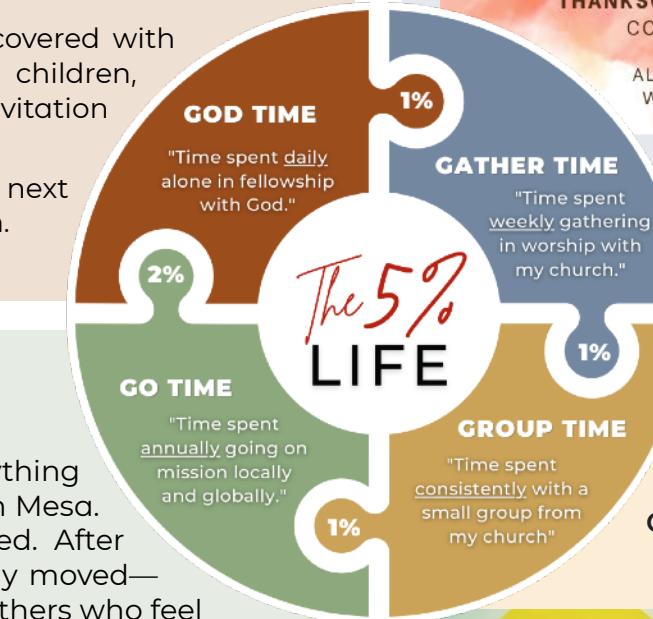
Barb never expected her life to shift so dramatically—but in one year, everything changed. A cross-country move. The loss of her husband. A new church home in Mesa. What felt like starting over became the beginning of something unexpected. After watching a Stephen Ministry commissioning service at Victory, Barb felt deeply moved—and her daughter saw it too: "Mom, you need to do that." Now, Barb is helping others who feel uprooted, overwhelmed, or alone—just like she once did. Her story is raw, real, and full of the grace God gives us when we say yes to His call.

Scan the QR code to hear how God met Barb in her hardest season—and how He's using her now to comfort others with the same comfort she received.



For more information contact:
Chaplain Dirk Duhlstine
dduhlstine@victorylutheran.com or 480-660-5231

Stephen Ministry is a confidential Ministry. The identity of those receiving care or what takes place in each caring relationship remains private. Contact our Chaplain who can tell you more about our Stephen Ministry program and how you—or a friend—can be matched with a Stephen Minister.



GATHER TIME: Thanksgiving Eve Worship & Dinner

Wednesday, November 26 @ 4:00pm (Dinner to follow)

Thanksgiving is a time when groups of family and friends gather to celebrate all that we are thankful for. At Victory we have a wonderful opportunity to do that together as a church family! Enjoy a buffet style meal of turkey, mashed potatoes, several sides, and pie for dessert. Meals available for "dine in" or "to go". Sign up and pay \$5 at the designated table in the lobby. All proceeds from ticket sales will go to Victory's Food Pantry. Volunteers needed for setup, cleanup and kitchen help. Call the church office at 480-830-5024 to volunteer.



Dear Victory Family,

As Thanksgiving approaches, I've been reflecting on the many ways God has shown His goodness to us this past year. Week after week, I see your faith lived out—in your prayers, in your service, and in the warmth you extend to others. It is a joy and a privilege to be part of this church with you.

This season naturally invites us to pause and consider how we might respond to God's blessings with grateful hearts. Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 9:7 that our giving should flow from a willing spirit, not from obligation. I love that reminder. Generosity in God's kingdom always begins with gratitude.

Pastor Todd Mathison

GROUP TIME: "Joining Jesus On His Mission" Study

Our Joining Jesus class just wrapped up five powerful weeks learning to live as everyday missionaries right in our neighborhoods through five simple practices: **Seeking the Kingdom, Hearing from Jesus, Talking with People, Doing Good, and Ministering through Prayer.**

