

## Sermon Notes

### Daily Bible Readings (November 2-8)

Sun: Joshua 1:1-9	Putting God First
Mon: Deut. 31:1-8	God's Promise to Moses & Joshua
Tues: Hebrews 11:1-16	The Faith of the Saints
Wed: Hebrews 11:32-12:2	The Great Cloud of Witnesses
Thurs: Matthew 6:25-34	Seek First the Kingdom
Fri: Philippians 4:10-20	God Supplies Every Need
Sat: Psalm 23	The Lord is My Shepherd

## Life Notes

### Forward Together #2: "Putting God First" - Joshua 1:1-9

#### Opener:

Think of someone you knew who consistently put God first in their life. What did that look like practically? What impact did it have on you?

#### Go Deeper: (Exploring the Bible)

1. **Read Joshua 1:1-9.** Count the times God mentions His presence or makes a promise. Why do you think God repeats Himself, and what does this reveal about what we need to hear?
2. **Compare Joshua 1:5 with Hebrews 13:5-6.** How does the writer of Hebrews connect God's promise to Joshua with our lives today? What does this tell us about the continuity of God's faithfulness across generations?
3. **Read Hebrews 11:13-16 and 39-40.** What made these imperfect people "saints" in God's eyes? How does this challenge or comfort your understanding of what it means to be faithful?
4. **Look at Joshua 1:7-8 alongside Psalm 1:1-3.** What role does God's Word play in Joshua's success? How does meditating on Scripture "day and night" connect to putting God first?
5. **Read 2 Corinthians 5:14-15.** How does Paul describe the motivation for putting God first? How is this different from obligation or guilt-driven obedience?

#### Live It: (Applying to Our Lives)

1. God Time (1% of your day): What would need to change for you to give God the "first fruits" of your day this week?
2. Gather Time (1% of your week): What obstacles keep you from consistent gathering, and how might God be calling you to overcome them?
3. Group Time (1% of your month): Are you currently in a small group, Bible study, or ministry team? If not, what's holding you back? If so, how has it helped you?
4. Go Time (2% of your year): What step could you take this year—as a pray-er, sender, or goer—to share in God's mission?
5. Treasure: If someone looked at your bank statement and calendar, would they be able to tell that God is first in your life? What would it look like for you to take a courageous step of faith with your treasure this month?

## Upcoming Week

Sunday, November 2

All Saints' Weekend  
Communion Weekend

"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

**12pm Starting Point, B7**

**Monday, November 3**

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

**Tuesday, November 4 - OFFICE CLOSED**

6:30pm "Seekers" Small Group, B7  
7pm AA Men's Meeting, C5

**Wednesday, November 5**

9-11:30am Food Pantry  
10am Men's Bible Study, C1  
12:30pm Al-Anon, C4  
1:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, WC  
6:30pm Choir Rehearsal, WC  
8pm AA Meeting, C5

**Thursday, November 6**

9:30am Women's Ministry Board Meeting, C1  
10am Prayer Group, B7  
11am Al-Anon Meeting, C5  
11:30am Stephen Ministry, C4

**Friday, November 7**

OFFICE CLOSED

**Saturday, November 8**

8am Men's Bible Study, C5  
4pm Worship, WC  
"Meet A Pastor" (following service)  
5pm Annual Meeting Q&A, B7

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

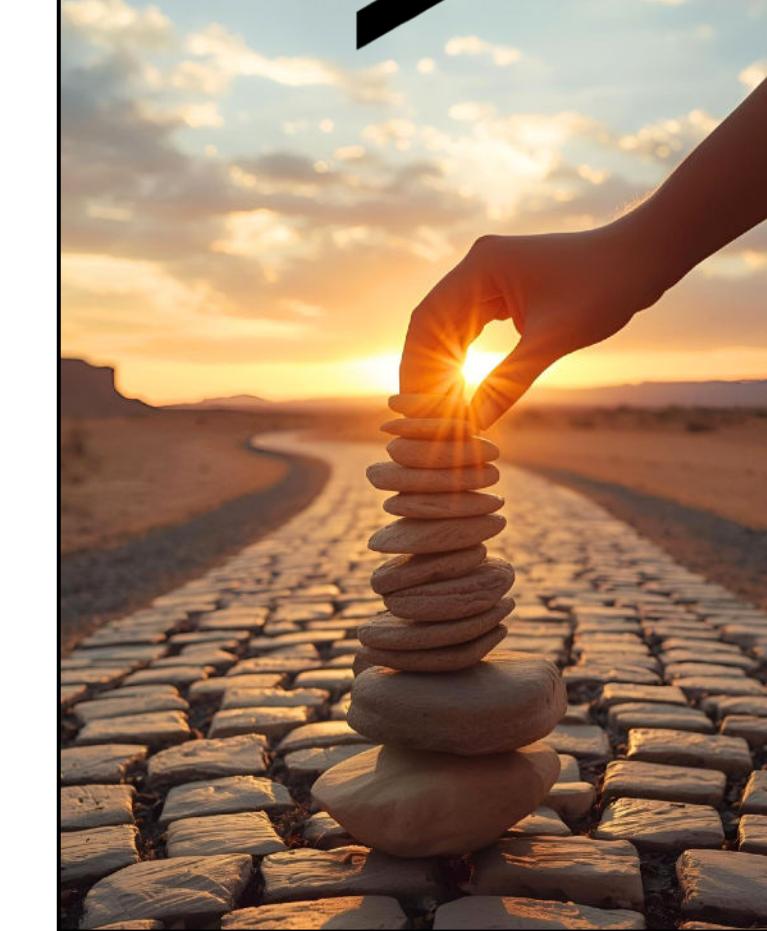
**Victory Lutheran Church**

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**FORWARD**  **TOGETHER**



November 1 & 2, 2025

## "Putting God First"

Joshua 1:1-9

 THE PULSE

Todd Mathison, Lead Pastor  
Denton Bennet, Associate Pastor  
Renée Bennett, Discipleship Pastor



Connect with us!  
   

## GOD TIME: All Saints' Day — Celebrating the Sainthood of All Believers

As Lutherans, we view All Saints' Day as a celebration of the "sainthood of all believers"—meaning that all followers of Christ are considered saints, not just the canonized ones. It is a day to remember and give thanks for all the faithful who have passed and to celebrate the hope of the resurrection and eternal life.

The meaning of saint was transformed during the persecutions of the early Christians by the Roman Empire. Martyrs became the prototypical saint. Praying to saints began because it was believed martyrs were received directly into heaven and their intercession with God was especially effective.

During the 12th and 13th centuries, the honoring of saints came under the control of the papacy and they established a process of canonization, which became the way the Catholic church determines if a person is a saint. To this day, the recognized saints dominate the Catholic church calendar with at least one saint acknowledged each day with special focus on their deeds, sufferings, and miracles.

The Reformation did not deny the significance of the saints as historical witnesses to the power and grace of God, but it did eliminate their veneration (praying to them) and removed their images from churches and homes.

Martin Luther said that all Christians are saints, redefining a "saint" as a forgiven sinner, not someone who is perfect or earns their holiness through works. Luther believed we are all "simul justus et peccator", which is Latin for "simultaneously just and sinner".



## GO TIME: Operation Christmas Child - "Shoebox" Ministry

This wonderful ministry where we here at Victory Lutheran Church pack shoeboxes for children in need around the world. Pencils, markers, toys toothbrushes and other school supplies are always greatly appreciated. Be sure to pack and return your boxes by November 15th.

## Pizza & Packing Party! - November 15 @ 5pm

We are asking each person to bring 10-20 items to help fill the boxes together. Items needed: Toys, toothbrushes, school supplies, soap, t-shirts, etc. and monetary donations to cover shipping welcome too. Sorry no food or liquid items allowed. If you can't bring items join us anyway to pack boxes, pray over them for God's little ones and enjoy some pizza. Remember every shoebox is delivered in Jesus Name. Let's take the message of the Gospel to the ends of the earth! **SIGN UP** at the Welcome Desk. Marcia Hurry, Volunteer Coordinator [mhurry.up@hotmail.com](mailto:mhurry.up@hotmail.com)



## Noisy Offering - November 29 & 30

Get ready to make some noise! We will be collecting a Noisy Offering to support Operation Christmas Child. Bring your spare change—and bills too!—and drop them into the buckets as we give joyfully. Start saving your coins now—a little change can make a big difference!

## GATHER TIME: All Saints' Day

In remembrance of our loved ones, we honor those who have "Gone Home to the Lord" within the past year. We remember and give thanks for the saints who are now in God's eternal, loving care. We praise God for their significance in our life — their influence, example and faith.

# All Saints' Day



## IN REMEMBRANCE OF OUR LOVED ONES...

Challis Aper	Connie Gauthier	Phil Nawrocki
Ruby Bailey	Louis Hanson	Shirley Neail
Vern Barlow	Kent Hochgraber	Ingeborg Pierce
Dolores Bowyer	Janis Johnson	Richard Rehn
Jacob Bricker	Dennis Koedyker	Ginger Sandfort
Bill Byers	Kristie Kranz	Shirley Smith
Cheri Guy Clark	Michael Casper Lewis	Neal Snider
Ethel DeMerse	Sandy Melville	Delores Rose Strains
James Dibley	Richard Michaelis	Odella Tibbetts
Helmut Duschek	Judea Myers	Betty Vos
	Beverley Freese	Janice Wipf

Almighty God, whose people are knit together in one Holy Church, the body of Christ our Lord: Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## GROUP TIME: Tetra String Quartet "What a Wonderful World" November 9, 3pm

Tetra String Quartet is an Arizona nonprofit organization that serves the community and empowers the next generation through performing and teaching chamber music. Tetra was formed in 2010, and they are proud to be both educators and performers. They have received awards, and traveled the world performing, but their mission is local in Arizona, sharing music with members of the community who often do not have access to quality classical experiences. Entrance is free, but donations are warmly accepted. Come enjoy the beautiful music and support this fine ensemble! Bring a friend and stay for the reception.

For more information about our upcoming concerts, scan the QR code or visit [VictoryLutheran.com/concert-series](http://VictoryLutheran.com/concert-series)  
Concert posters are available at the Welcome Desk.

