

Sermon Notes

Life Notes

Never Beyond His Reach #1: Known In The Breaking Luke 24:13-35

Opener:

What's one big public celebration you remember and what made it memorable?

Go Deeper: *(Exploring the Bible)*

1. In Luke 24:13-16, what do these opening verses show us about the emotional and spiritual condition of the two disciples?
2. Why is it important that Jesus opens the Scriptures to them before they recognize Him in the breaking of the bread?
3. What do Luke 24:32 and Romans 10:17 teach us about how faith is created and strengthened?
4. In Luke 24:35, why does the phrase "known to them in the breaking of the bread" matter so much for the life of the Church?

Live It: *(Applying to Our Lives)*

1. Where in your life right now are you most tempted to mistake confusion or sorrow for the absence of Jesus?
2. What does this Bible text encourage you to do when your heart feels heavy and your faith feels weak?
3. How can staying near God's Word and the gathered life of the Church help reframe the way you face this week?
4. Who around you may need the hope-filled reminder that the risen Jesus still comes near to weary people?

Daily Bible Readings (April 12-18)

Sun: Luke 24:13-35 Known in the Breaking
 Mon: Romans 10:8-17 Faith Comes by Hearing
 Tues: Psalm 34:17-22 Near the Brokenhearted
 Wed: Isaiah 55:6-11 His Word Does Not Return Empty
 Thurs: John 6:35, 51-58 Jesus the Bread of Life
 Fri: 1 Peter 1:3-9 Joy Beyond What You See
 Sat: Revelation 7:13-17 The Lamb Will Lead Them

Upcoming Week

Sunday, April 12

8:30-11am Morning Fellowship, FH
 8am Worship & Communion, WC
 9:30am Worship, WC
 9:30am Children's Church, NR
 11am Contemporary Worship, WC
 11am Children's Church, NR
12:30pm Discovering Victory, C4

Monday, April 13

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

Tuesday, April 14

10am Esperanza Bible Study, C5
 11:30am Lunch @ Red Mountain Café (off-site)
 1:30pm Mary Bible Study, meets in home
 7pm AA Men's Meeting, C5

Wednesday, April 15

9-11:30am Food Pantry
 10am Men's Bible Study, LR
 12:30pm Al-Anon, C4
 1pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, WC
 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal, WC

Thursday, April 16

10am Prayer Group, B7
 11am Al-Anon Meeting, FS
 11:30am Stephen Ministers, C4

Friday, April 17

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, April 18

8am Men's Bible Study, FS
 4pm Worship, WC

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



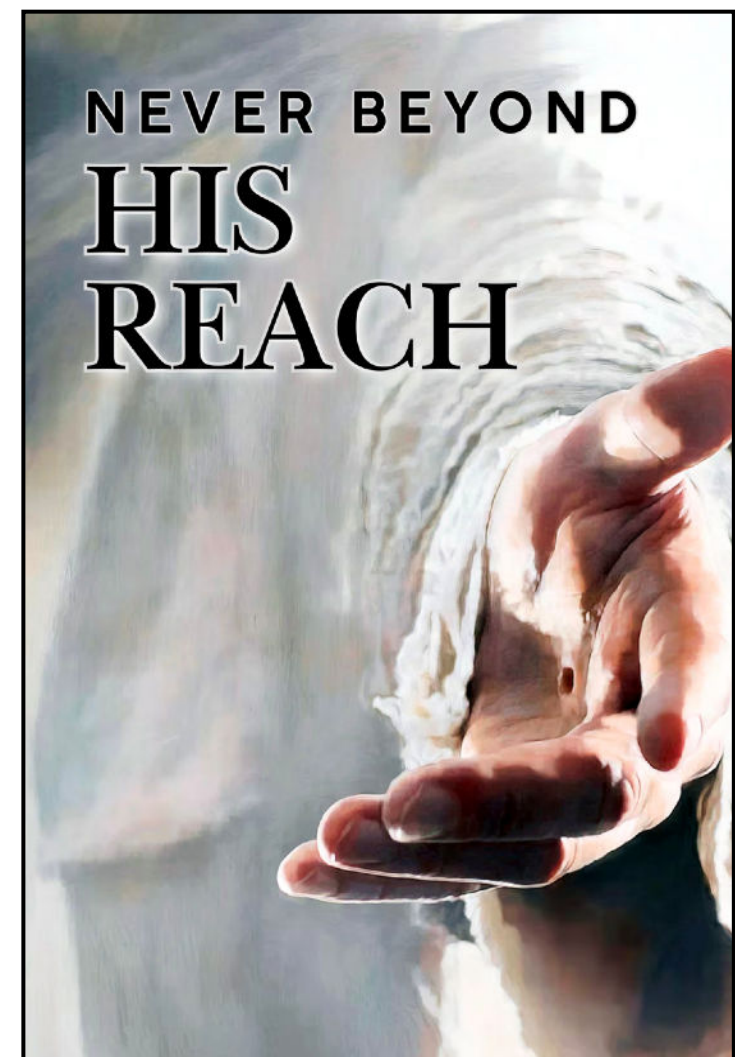
Victory Lutheran Church

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



VictoryLutheran_Guest
 Password: Victory_46

NEVER BEYOND HIS REACH



APRIL 11 & 12, 2026

Known In The Breaking Luke 24:13-35



Todd Mathison, Lead Pastor
 Denton Bennet, Associate Pastor
 Dirk Duhstine, Chaplain
 Kristin Holton Prouty, Director of Worship & Music



Connect with us!



GOD TIME: Three Morning Prayers

Todd Mathison, Lead Pastor

Each morning, before the noise of the day gets its hands on me, I try to begin in the same place: prayer. Not hurried prayer. Not checking-the-box prayer. I mean stopping long enough to let my heart get re-centered in the presence of the Triune God.

I begin with the prayer our Lord Himself taught us: **"Our Father Who art in heaven..."** That prayer reminds me I do not face this day alone or aimlessly. I have a Father. He reigns. He provides. He forgives. He leads. Before I do anything for God, I remember whose I am.

Then I pray the ancient Jesus Prayer: **"Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner."** Those words keep me honest. Apart from Christ, I am a sinner in need of mercy. I never outgrow that truth. But neither do I stop at that truth. In Christ, I am redeemed, forgiven, and deeply loved. I am not defined by my sin, but by His grace.

Then I pray to the Holy Spirit: **"Come Holy Spirit, fill me afresh this day full to overflowing that I might serve in your strength and walk in the way of Jesus, to the glory of His holy name. Amen."** The Spirit does not abandon His people, but every day seems to bring new burdens, temptations, and opportunities. I need His fresh strengthening so I do not live in my own power or follow my own path, but walk the way of Jesus—the way of humble, cross-shaped love.

These prayers steady me. They slow me down. They set my heart on Christ. What about you? What patterns of prayer shape your mornings?



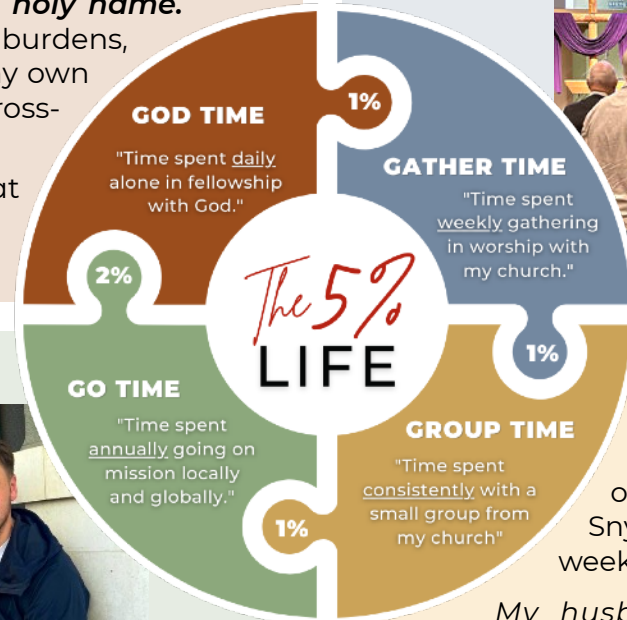
GATHER TIME: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday & Stations of the Cross Experience

A heartfelt thank you to all who came out in support of Holy Week and joined us for Maundy Thursday and our "Eternal Rest, Eternal Light" Good Friday choir and orchestra presentation of the Rutter Requiem. It was truly beautiful, moving, and magnificent—an experience that touched many hearts.

Through the Stations of the Cross, each rooted in the Psalms, we journeyed alongside Jesus in His suffering, recognizing that the voice of the psalmist is not distant from this moment, but fulfilled within it. The video/music meditation that was created to accompany the stations is available to watch by scanning the QR code provided.



Scan Here to watch the Good Friday service again!



GO TIME: An Unexpected Blessing

Jonas Oehrlein, IT Tech

It is amazing how God is always ahead of us. Last year, around this time, we received notice from our previous IT vendor that he would be closing his business. It had been a long partnership of more than a decade, and it was more affordable.

We soon started searching for a new vendor and realized the price would be way over what we imagined—around 6x more than we were paying



But God had already prepared a solution for us. Around the same time, an incredible young man and his mom started attending Victory, and they enjoyed it here so much that they became members. And guess what? He works in IT for a large company here in the Valley

We asked if he might be able to provide a quote through his company, and after a few days, he told us that his boss would be happy to let him help us whenever we needed. So now, Jonas Oehrlein has been helping us for almost a year at no cost to Victory, and he has been an incredible blessing to us.

When we thought our cost would increase six times, God instead had the opposite in mind. Thank you so much, Jonas, for giving your time and talents to God.



Jonas - New Member Commissioning - May 11, 2025

GROUP TIME: Welcome Heidi Somers

Welcome Heidi to the Victory staff! As our new **Church Bookkeeper** Heidi will take on the accounts receivable role previously done by Kathy Michel who is retiring at the end of April. Heidi will also do accounts payable and payroll that has been done by Diane Snyder, as Diane will take over Kathy's other duties. Please stop by the office during the week to meet Heidi and welcome her to Victory!

My husband Jim and I moved to Arizona from Massachusetts six years ago. We had been vacationing in Arizona for 20 years with our two children and knew someday we would call Arizona home.

Jim and I were very involved in our church back in Rowley, Massachusetts. I don't think there was a position that one of us didn't have. For me the most meaningful work was chaperoning and assisting the Youth Group. I felt my own Youth Group shaped me when I was young and I wanted to make sure it would be there for others.

Family is everything to me, and my husband I feel incredibly blessed that both our children married people we love and respect and fit seamlessly into our lives. They are our ultimate travel/adventure buddies, and we have seen some very beautiful places in our travels with them.

I love landscape/garden design; the challenge of taking the worst part of a yard and making it the first thing you want to see after being away.

I am thrilled to be part of the Victory Lutheran Team and getting to know all of you!

Welcome



Heidi Somers and family