

Sermon Notes

Daily Bible Readings (May 17-23)

Sun: Isaiah 65:17-25 New Creation Foretold
 Mon: Romans 8:18-25 Creation Groaning for Renewal
 Tues: 1 Corin. 15:51-57 Death Swallowed in Victory
 Wed: Isaiah 25:6-8 Every Tear Wiped Away
 Thurs: 2 Corin. 5:1-10 A House Not Made with Hands
 Fri: Psalm 16:9-11 You Will Not Abandon My Soul
 Sat: Hebrews 11:13-16 Seeking a Better Country

Victory's Weekly Bulletin

In case you missed any of the stories or would like to read again, you can find at:

victorylutheran.com/the-pulse/

If you have a story to share of healing, praise, gratitude, serving in a mission or ministry at Victory, please send to hello@victorylutheran.com (250-300 word limit)

Life Notes

Never Beyond His Reach #6: The Ultimate Rescue Revelation 21:1-7; John 14:1-6

Opener:

What's something old you've seen restored — a car, a house, a relationship? What made it better than new?

Go Deeper: (Exploring the Bible)

1. The word "new" in v.1 is kainos — restored in quality, not replaced. Read Romans 8:19-21. What does God's commitment to restoring rather than scrapping creation tell us about how He sees us?
2. "Dwell" in v.3 is skene — tabernacle — the same word as John 1:14. Read Exodus 40:34-38. What has God been moving toward since the beginning?
3. Verse 4 abolishes four specific things: death, mourning, crying, pain. Read Isaiah 25:6-8. Which of the four is most personal to you right now, and why?
4. God commands: "Write this — these words are trustworthy and true" (v.5). Read 2 Corinthians 1:20. What does the covenantal language tell us about the weight of this promise?
5. "It is done" in v.6 is perfect tense — already accomplished. Compare John 19:30. What does it mean that your story's ending is already written?

Live It: (Applying to Our Lives)

1. What "former thing" are you carrying as though it's permanent? What changes if you believed it was former, not final?
2. God promises to wipe your specific tears — personally. What do you hold back from Him in prayer, and why?
3. The sermon addressed two people: the thirsty who haven't said yes, and believers who've forgotten they're held. Which is you today?
4. Do you treat God's promises as binding certainties or hopeful possibilities? What would living inside "It is done" look like this week?
5. Who in your life needs to hear that the way home is a Person, not a performance? What's one step toward that conversation?

Upcoming Week

Sunday, May 17

NEW MEMBER COMMISSIONING

8:30-11am Morning Fellowship, FH
 8am Worship & Communion, WC
 9:30am Worship, WC
 9:30am Children's Church, NR
 11am ContemporaryWorship,WC
 11am Children's Church, NR

Monday, May 18

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

Tuesday, May 19

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



Wednesday, May 20

8:30-11:30am Quilters, FH
 9-11:30am Food Pantry
 10am Men's Bible Study, LR
 12:30pm Al-Anon, C4

Thursday, May 21

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

Friday, May 22

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, May 23

PENTECOST - WEAR RED!

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

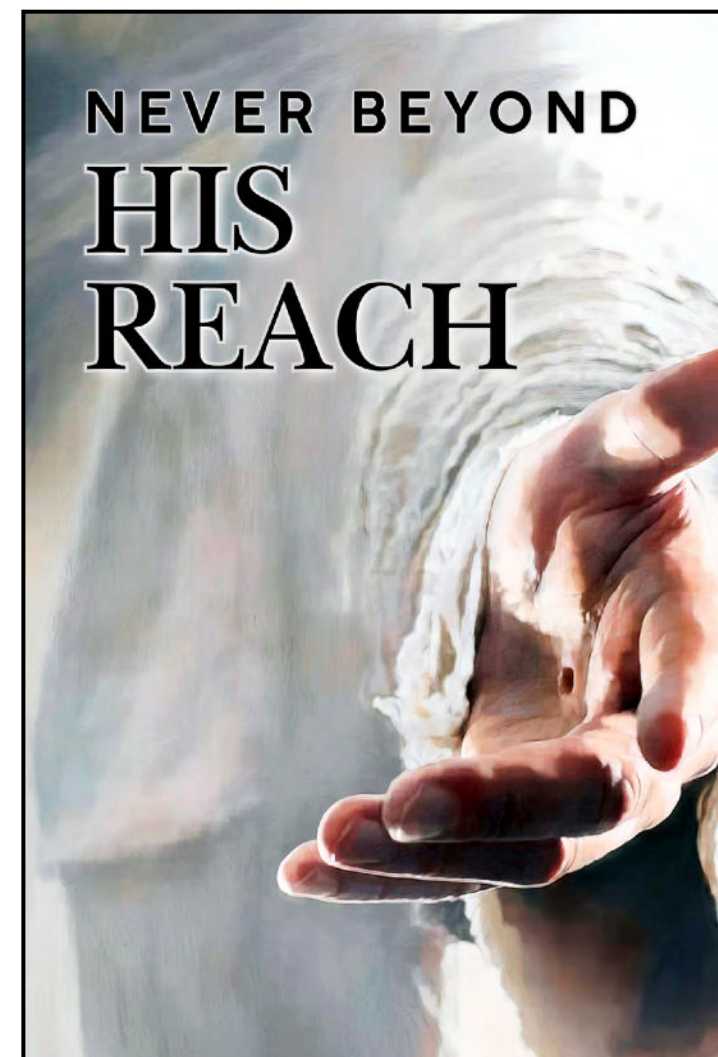
Victory Lutheran Church

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NEVER BEYOND HIS REACH



MAY 16 & 17, 2026

The Ultimate Rescue Revelation 21:1-7



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



Connect with us!



GOD TIME: Congratulations on the Day!

Pastor Todd Mathison

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free." (Galatians 5:1)

Every year on May 17, Norway celebrates **Syttende Mai** (SIT-en-duh MY) It remembers the signing of Norway's constitution in 1814, when Norway separated from Denmark, adopted its own constitution, and declared its desire for freedom and self-government.

That freedom did not come all at once. After 1814, Norway entered a union with Sweden. Full independence came later, in 1905, when Norway dissolved that union, received overwhelming public support in a national referendum, and was formally recognized by Sweden as a sovereign nation.

Today, Syttende Mai is a joyful celebration. There are parades, flags, music, traditional clothing, hot dogs, ice cream, *kransekake* (wreath cake), and the joyful greeting heard everywhere: "Gratulerer med dagen!" — "Congratulations on the day!"

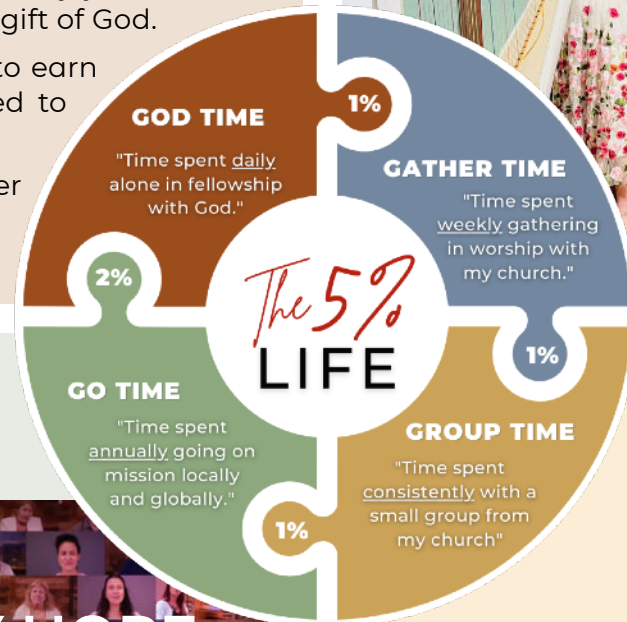
What if Christians lived every day with that same kind of holy joy? Congratulations on the day! What day? The day Christ went to the cross for you. The day Jesus paid the full price for your sin. The day your guilt was covered, your condemnation removed, and your freedom secured—not by your effort, your goodness, or your religious performance, but by grace alone, through faith as a gift of God.

In Christ, you are not working for God's love. You are living in it. You are not trying to earn your place in God's family. Jesus has already brought you in. You are not chained to shame, fear, or the final accusation of sin. Christ has set you free.

That is worth celebrating. So today, let your heart rejoice. Lift your eyes. Remember what Jesus has done. Congratulations on the day. You are free in Christ!



GATHER TIME: Mother's Day Weekend



GO TIME: Daily Hope —A Simple Way to Share Encouragement

One of the blessings of ministry today is that encouragement can reach people far beyond the walls of our church. A short devotion, a Scripture verse, or a timely word of hope can meet someone right where they are — at home, at work, in a waiting room, or during a difficult season. At Victory, we have a simple and meaningful way to do just that. It is called **Daily Hope**.

Daily Hope is a short devotional message shared throughout the week to encourage faith, point people to Scripture, and remind us that God's promises are for everyday life. It is one of the ways Victory shares the good news of Jesus not only with our congregation, but also with friends, neighbors, family members, and anyone who may need encouragement.

In our recent church-wide survey, we learned that **33% of respondents were not familiar with Daily Hope**. That tells us we have a wonderful opportunity to make this ministry more visible and invite more people to receive it.

You can **subscribe** by texting **victory** to **888-897-5573**.



And here is something simple to remember: **sharing is outreach**. When you forward a Daily Hope devotion, share a post, invite a friend to subscribe, or tell someone about something that encouraged you, you are helping the message of Christ reach another person.

Another meaningful way to support Victory's online outreach is by leaving a **Google review**. Many people look online before visiting a church for the first time. A kind review can help someone feel more comfortable taking that first step.

Scan the QR code or use the link below to leave a review, and consider sharing Daily Hope with someone who could use encouragement today.

https://g.page/r/Cc_npC_9zIqaEBM/review



Scan the QR code above to leave a Google Review!

GROUP TIME: New Member Commissioning

Be sure to take a moment to welcome Victory's newest members wearing a red carnation!

4:00pm

Janine Kredell
Beth Cedarleaf
David Mayne
Ruth Dreizigacker

8:00am

Robert Pettitt
Carol Pettitt
Kathy Schellhas

9:30am

Bill Kell
Karen Heathcote
Carol Moseley



Pastor Denton Bennet



Discovering Victory Class - April 2026

