

Sermon Notes

Life Notes

Foundations of Our Faith
"Founded on the Rock"
Matthew 7:24-27

Opener:
What is one home or building that holds a happy memory for you?

Go Deeper: (Exploring the Bible)

1. What do the two builders in Matthew 7:24–27 have in common, and what is the decisive difference between them?

2. What does Jesus mean when He speaks about hearing His words and acting on them?

3. According to 1 Corinthians 3:9–11, why can no pastor, tradition, program, or building serve as the Church's true foundation?

4. How do God's Word, Baptism, and Holy Communion keep a congregation rooted in Jesus Christ?

Live It: (Applying to Our Lives)

1. What situation is testing the foundation of your faith right now?

2. What are you sometimes tempted to depend upon for security instead of Christ and His promises?

3. What word or promise of Jesus do you need to carry with you this week?

4. As Victory asks who we have been, who we are, and who God is calling us to be, where might God be inviting you to pray, serve, or encourage someone?

Daily Bible Readings (October 4-10)

Sun: Matthew 7:24–27

Mon: 1 Corinthians 3:9–11

Tues: Psalm 46:1–11

Wed: Isaiah 43:1–7

Thurs: Romans 6:3–11

Fri: 1 Corinthians 10:16–17

Sat: 1 Peter 2:4–10

Founded on the Rock

Christ Our Foundation

God Our Refuge

Held Through Storms

Raised with Christ

One Bread, One Body

Living Stones

Upcoming Week

Sunday, October 4
WORLD COMMUNION WEEKEND
8:30-11am Coffee & Fellowship, FH
8am Worship & Communion, WC
9:30am Worship, WC

Monday, October 5
9-11:30am Food Pantry
12:30-2:30pm GriefShare, CH

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

Wednesday, October 7
9-11:30am Food Pantry
10am Men's Bible Study, C1
12:30pm Al-Anon, C4
6:30pm Choir Rehearsal, WC

Thursday, October 8
10am Prayer Group, B7
11am Al-Anon Meeting, C5

Friday, October 9
OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, October 10
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

Trouble Hearing?

We offer:

- Listening devices
- Headphones
- Neckloops
- Live closed captions

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Victory Lutheran Church

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Foundations of Our FAITH

50+

VICTORY LUTHERAN CHURCH
A.L.C. 1980

OCTOBER 3 & 4, 2026

Founded on the Rock

Matthew 7:24-27

THE PULSE

Todd Mathison, Lead Pastor

Dirk Duhlstine, Chaplain

Kristin Holton Prouty, Director of Worship & Music

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GOD TIME: At His Table

Some of the most important moments in the life of a Christian happen quietly. Bread is placed into open hands. A cup is received. And once again, we hear the promise of Jesus: "This is my body...This cup is the new covenant in my blood" (1 Corinthians 11:23–26).

Holy Communion is not simply something we do to remember Jesus. It is a meal Jesus Himself instituted, and He continues to meet us there. With the bread and wine, Christ gives us His true body and blood—"given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins."

We come humbly, not because we are worthy, but because we need Jesus. We bring our sins, burdens, doubts, and weariness. At His Table, the risen Christ gives us forgiveness, grace, assurance, and strength to live as His people.

Communion does not repeat Christ's sacrifice. Jesus offered Himself on the cross once for all (Hebrews 10:10–14). His saving work is finished. At the Table, He gives us the benefits of that completed work and assures us personally: My forgiveness is for you. My grace is for you.

This meal also joins us to one another. "Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body" (1 Corinthians 10:17). We come from different places and carry different stories, yet Christ gathers us into one family.

For fifty years, generations at Victory have received this same gift. While Pastors, members, buildings, and seasons may change, Jesus remains faithful. He meets us at His Table, forgives us, strengthens our faith, and reminds us that Victory's life—and our future—rest in Him alone.



GATHER TIME: Inaugural Sermons for 50th Anniversary

Every church has a story. Ours includes buildings and ministries, pastors and people, joyful celebrations and difficult seasons. Yet beneath it all is something far stronger than any plan we have made or anything we have built. Victory's one true foundation is Jesus Christ.

This October, we begin celebrating Victory's 50th anniversary with our first sermon series, *Foundations of Faith*. Victory's story begins with God, not with us. For fifty years, the Lord has gathered people around His Word, washed them in the grace of Baptism, fed them at His Table, and sent them into the world to love and serve their neighbors. Generations have called Victory their church home because Christ has been faithful here.

Throughout this series, we will return to the gifts that have shaped us. We will remember that God's Word is not simply decoration for our religious life—it is the daily bread that exposes our sin, announces Christ's forgiveness, and strengthens our faith. We will rejoice again in the Lutheran heartbeat of the Gospel: we are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, not by our goodness, effort, or religious performance. And as Reformation Sunday approaches, we will be reminded that Christ continues to renew and reform His Church through His Word.

As we embark on this anniversary journey together, be ready to remember, give thanks, and listen for what God is saying to us today. We do not know everything the coming years will hold. But we know the One who holds us. Jesus Christ is our Rock—and as we enter Victory's anniversary year together, we will continue building our life and future on Him.



GO TIME: September Food Drive — Thank You!

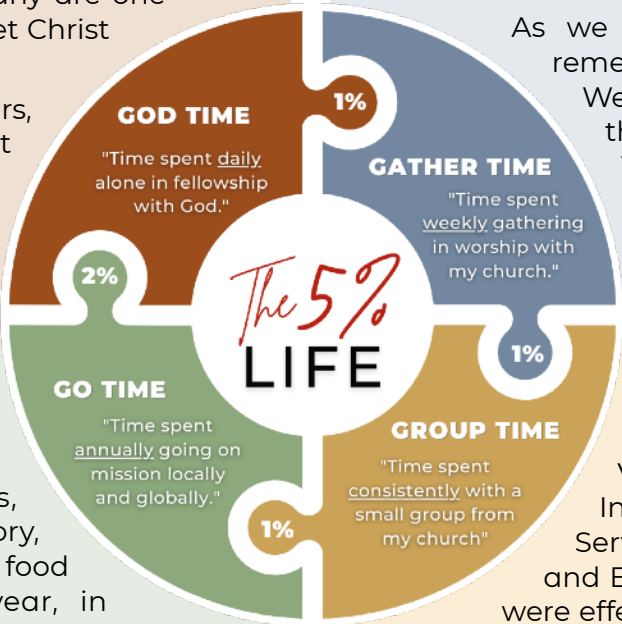


"Look at all that food!", exclaimed a food pantry client. The shelves had started to look bare until YOU generously donated pasta, rice, beans, marina sauce, cereal, and peanut butter. Victory, along with Lutheran Social Services, has provided food boxes to the needy for many years. This year, in particular, the need has been greater.

In the parable of the Sheep and Goats in Matthew 25, Jesus encourages us to feed and clothe those in need. "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I

needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

What a glorious way to serve the Lord! An obedient response to His encouragement to see a need and meet it, as if we are giving directly to Him. A big 'thank you' to all who contributed!



GROUP TIME: The Joy and Blessing of Christian Friendship
Bev Locke

Victory joined two local outreach programs in 2011, Family Promise and I-HELP, the Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program organized by Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest. Through volunteering in these programs, Don and I met Bob and Bonnie Brehmer and Dan and Sue McDermott. Together we developed programs that were effective, efficient, and FUN. We provided multiple opportunities for our congregations to serve. Over the years, we became close friends, celebrating birthdays, supporting each other through illness and loss, and always praying for one another.

Our friendship has lasted and grown even stronger as we "grow old" together. After my recent lengthy stay at a Rehab Resort in Scottsdale, I am reminded again that we are blessed when we serve Him. What better way to develop lasting friendships than to serve together in fulfilling God's purpose while we are here on earth.

If you do not belong to a small group, look for opportunities to serve and work with others. Now is the time to take a step toward service and lasting Christian friendship. You will be blessed !

