

CONNECTIONS



Living Water
Lutheran Church



March 23, 2025



THIRD SUNDAY
In Lent

Sunday Worship Service is at 10:00am
on-site and online

Weekly CONNECTIONS Deadline—*Tuesdays at NOON*

We Remember in Our Prayers



- ALL impacted by the Los Angeles, CA Wildfires
- Bill Anderson—Upcoming Surgery
- Jeff & Eric Bembry (Friends of Diane vanMaanen)—Health Concerns
- Charlie Boyd—Health Concerns
- Terry Brooke (Daughter of Maria Tillotson)—Health Concerns
- Barbara Brooks—Health Concerns
- Lizzy Caddow (Friend of Diane Salinas)—Cancer
- Christi (Daughter of Charlie and Sue Boyd)—Health Concerns
- Katie Dawson (Daughter of Tod and Bonnie Dawson) —Health Concerns
- Pastor Michael Dubsy (Friend of Frances DeBruyn)—Health Concerns
- Angelika Dumpf (Wife of Brett Stone)—Health Concerns
- Sheila Fankhauser—Back Surgery
- Jenna Fjeld—Health Concerns
- Dave and Joy Gallimore—Health Concerns
- Frank Gasparino—Health Concerns
- Vicki Grimsley (Mother of Mason Rossman)—Cancer
- Kyle and Tyler Hornacek (Grandsons of John and Sue Hornacek)—Life Concerns
- Dick Johnston—Health Concerns
- Dan Kempf (Brother of Myrna Ulland)—In Hospice
- Kristin Klarkowski—Health Concerns
- Tom Kelland—Health Concerns
- Jill Knorra—Health Concerns
- Michael Koch (Grandson of Ron & Shirley Koch)—Health Concerns
- Gabriele Laudenschlager—Health Concerns
- Betty McCarthy (Sister of Stephen McCarthy)—Health Concerns
- Prentice Powers (Marty Lindert's brother)—Health Concerns
- Rebecca (Melissa Freesh's sister)—Health Concerns
- Bonnie Roberts—Life Concerns
- Kathie Roegnik—Health Concerns
- Del Rogge—Heart Concerns
- Pastor Mark Rossman—Health Concerns
- Kristen Stenehem (Niece of Sue and Lee Stenehem)—Health Concerns
- Bob Ulland—Health Concerns
- Michael Umland (Son of Steve & Sue Umland)—Health Concerns
- Peter Vasiliades (Nephew of Rick Sherrin)—Health Concerns
- Friends and Family of Dan Bonar

Send your prayer requests to prayer@lwlcaz.org or fill out a card in the Narthex.

**If it is time to remove someone from the prayer list, please contact the front office.*

Men's Bible Breakfast

We meet on Thursdays at **8:00am**

Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center

7415 East Elbow Bend Rd.

Carefree, AZ 85377

\$8 for breakfast

Dennis Nelson Bible Study

Studies available on YouTube each **Wednesday**

Weekly, published on our YouTube Channel

Wednesdays at NOON

Bible Study Outlines available on

*our website: **lwlc.org***

REMINDER:

For on-line giving at Living Water please visit **LWLC.org**
and Click on "**Online Giving.**"

This will provide navigation for both new users to this method
and allow editing for current users to update their intentions
for 2025.

Family Sunday School



returns this spring with the curriculum entitled "Simply Loved." We will be exploring a Jesus-centered journey through God's story of Love. Our spring semester will focus on one simple Bible Point and Bible Verse:

*Bible Point - "God is good no matter what."

*Bible Verse - "The Lord is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes" (Nahum 1:7)



- **Sunday, March 30, 9:00am** – God Helps Joseph Interpret Dreams
- **Sunday, April 13, 9:00am** – LENTEN FAIR!
- **Sunday, May 4, 9:00am** – Joseph Forgives His Brothers



We will meet in the Matthew/Mark classrooms in the Education Building. All families with children ages two through sixth grade are welcome to participate.

Prayer Squares

During the season of Lent, you will have an opportunity to pick up a prayer square when you come to worship. These are made by the knitters and crocheters of our congregation.



So, what's a prayer square? It's a piece of knitted or crocheted cloth. Placed in a pocket, backpack or purse, the prayer square serves as a reminder: a reminder to pause and pray, and also a reminder that someone has already prayed for you.





Lenten Challenge for 2025

Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission (NELM) is a 70-year-old ministry of the ELCA in Rock Point, AZ where more than half of the households either do not have running water or do not have access to safe drinking water.

The 2025 Lenten Challenge supports Lutheran Disaster Relief (LDR) and our church's call to respond to nonconventional disasters including the work of NELM. The 5 synods of the ELCA Region 2 are challenging each other to raise funds through LDR in support of water projects at NELM. The synod with the most individual registrations will get bragging rights, so register all household email addresses.

THE CHALLENGE: Participate in some spiritual and physical practices during the 40 days of Lent. Each registrant should commit to 3 of the 4 practices.

The 4 practices include: Daily Devotions, Daily Dedication, Daily Diligence, and Daily Giving. Participants commit to three (or more!) of the following practices during Lent:

- **Daily Devotion** – Receive daily devotions by Pastor Bill Dohle or use ELCA World Hunger resources.
- **Daily Diligence** – Conserve water, learn about water resources, and engage with water in meaningful ways.
- **Daily Dedication** – Participate in community worship, Bible studies, or activities like water walks and World Water Day celebrations.
- **Daily Donation** – Pledge \$1/day (or more) for 40 days to Lutheran Disaster Response, benefiting NELM.

To Find out more about the 4 practices,

Go to: <https://lentenchallenge.org/the-practices>

Ready to sign up for the Lenten Challenge?

Go to: <https://lentenchallenge.org/take-action>

Lenten Soup Suppers

Soup Suppers will be held prior to Bible Study and Lenten Worship on
March 26
April 2 and 9
Serving starts at 5:30 pm

A different Ministry Team prepares and serves each Wednesday. A free will offering is requested, going to Vista del Camino Community Center and for Fellowship Team kitchen supplies.

These simple suppers are wonderful opportunities for Fellowship, nourishment, and preparation for worship and acknowledgement of our Ministry Teams. Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center is providing soup and bread at one of the Suppers as well.

Living Water's "Hunger Jar"

The large Hunger Jar is in the sanctuary during services, to the right of the water fountain. Offerings placed in the Hunger Jar are typically distributed 50/50 between local and international/global organizations or initiatives.



The Service and Caring Team Ministry at LWLC periodically determines how to distribute offerings to the Hunger Jar. Most recently, we split the 12/31/24 balance of **\$1,899.00** between Foothills Food Bank and ELCA World Hunger. Each received \$944.50.

You are invited to make an offering to the Hunger Jar while the offering is being collected during the worship service. While the jar's tag line says, "Change for Change," your offering can be coins, bills, and even checks. And, if you prefer, you can donate through LWLC's online donation option and indicate "Hunger Jar."

From time to time, you may also see smaller Hunger Jar collection jars elsewhere in the church as we gather for worship. Each offering placed in the Hunger Jar is a reminder that our hungry neighbors, near and far, benefit from our generosity. Thank you!

The Sunday Adult Forum continues the series on Martin Luther's Small Catechism at 9am in the Upstairs Choir Room in the Education Building. This next section is about the Lord's Prayer and will be taught on the following dates by Pastor Steve Beyer.

- March 30
- April 13.

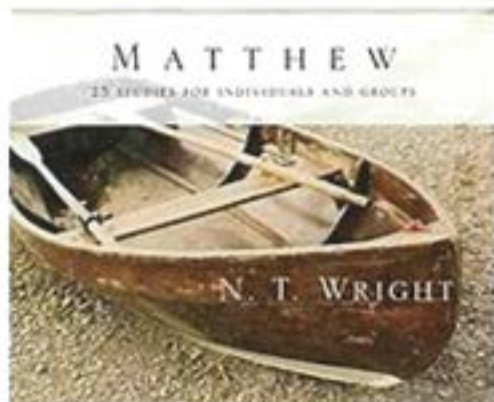


About our teacher:

Pastor Steve Beyer retired last year after 43 years of active ministry, first as a parish pastor in Brooklyn, NY, then a Navy chaplain and most recently as the lead pastor of Lord of Life in Sun City West.

He is a Navy brat who was born at NAS Jacksonville, Florida, but grew -up in Wisconsin about sixty miles from Green Bay and still considers himself a Cheesehead.

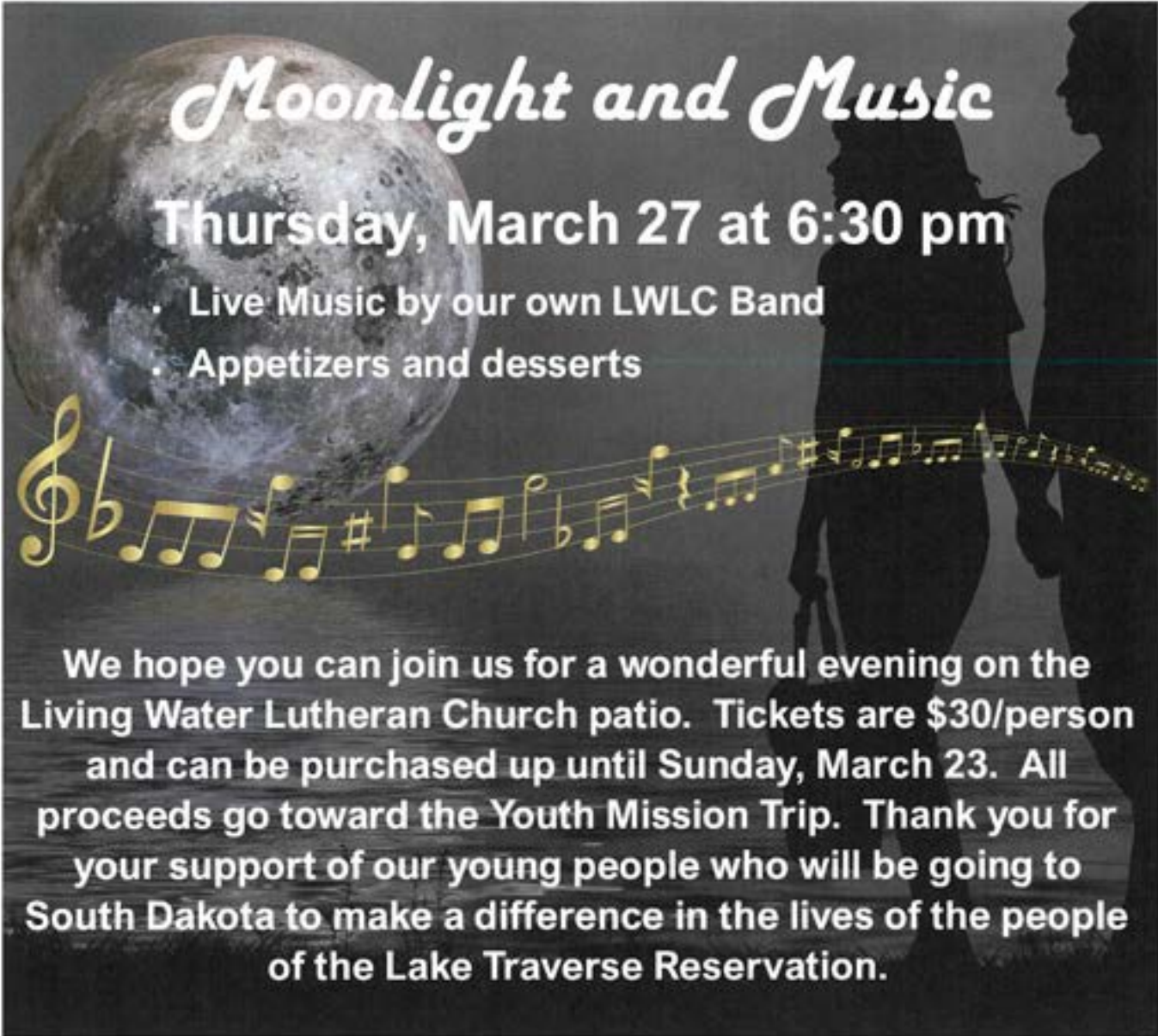
He met his wife, Toni, at church in Brooklyn and they have three grown children.



Tuesday Women's Bible Study

Join us on any Tuesday morning at 10 am MST in the Fellowship Hall, or at 10 am MST via Zoom, to continue our study of the Gospel of Matthew. We're using material from New Testament scholar, N.T. Wright.

No prior knowledge of the Bible is needed, and you don't have to be Lutheran either. Come as you can, bring a friend and your favorite Bible translation. The coffee and hot water for tea/hot chocolate will always be on. Occasionally we also have a little treat. We meet for approximately 90 minutes on Tuesday mornings and often go to lunch as a group on the last Tuesday of each month. If you're not receiving our Tuesday Women email communications, please notify [myrna.ulland@gmail](mailto:myrna.ulland@gmail.com) to be added.



Moonlight and Music

Thursday, March 27 at 6:30 pm

- Live Music by our own LWLC Band
- Appetizers and desserts

We hope you can join us for a wonderful evening on the Living Water Lutheran Church patio. Tickets are \$30/person and can be purchased up until Sunday, March 23. All proceeds go toward the Youth Mission Trip. Thank you for your support of our young people who will be going to South Dakota to make a difference in the lives of the people of the Lake Traverse Reservation.

Medical Lending Library

Collections: March 23 & 30 right here

Donate your used medical devices: walkers, commode, wheelchair, crutches, hospital bed plus adult depends and unopened over the counter vitamins.

These will be used by our partner La Sagrada Familia's uninsured/low income church members.

LOS ANGELES CHILDREN'S CHORUS INTERMEDIATE CHOIR

WHEN

Sunday
April 6, 2025
10 a.m. Service

ABOUT INTERMEDIATE CHOIR

Los Angeles Children's Chorus's Intermediate Choir will perform at Living Water Lutheran Church on April 6 at 10 a.m. Intermediate Choir is one of seven ensembles from Los Angeles Children's Chorus, a youth choir program that serves more than 500 singers annually. Intermediate Choir comprises children with advanced musical abilities who audition directly into the ensemble, along with choristers who have been promoted from the lower-level Apprentice Choir.

Intermediate choristers participate in a three-day regional tour each spring to sing with other children's choirs, and perform for local audiences..

Fred Meads, Director



Family and friends are invited to join for a FREE performance by the LA Children's Chorus at the close of our service on April 6th.



Grand Canyon Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Your congregation's Mission Support to the Grand Canyon Synod supports impactful ministry, including:

Supporting Church Leaders

First Call Theological Accompaniment
Discernment & Candidacy Process
Ordination of Rostered Leaders
Pastoral & Diaconal Transitions

Supports Neighbors

Lutheran Advocacy Ministry of Arizona (LAMA)
Lutheran Engagement and Advocacy in Nevada (LEAN)
Lutheran Disaster Response and Lutheran World Relief
Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest
Lutheran Social Services of Nevada
Border Ministry: Cruzando Fronteras
Arizona Faith Network

Supports Congregations & Communities

Mission & Ministry Ethnic Specific Ministries & New Starts
Lutheran Campus Ministry at ASU, NAU, & U of A
Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary & California Lutheran University
Congregational Project Grants & Manna Hunger Grants
Congregations in Leadership Transition
Camp Formation, ELCA Youth Gathering & Leadership Lab

**Today we welcome
Rev. Jacqui Pagel,
the Grand Canyon Synod
Bishop's Associate for
Candidacy and Faith
Formation.**



Fun fact, you are a member of the Grand Canyon Synod, along with congregations and new mission starts in Arizona, southern Nevada, and Saint George, Utah!

As members of the Grand Canyon Synod, we are one of 65 synods in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), the largest Lutheran church body in the United States, with 3 million members.

We believe that we are freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor together in one mission as the church.



Scan this QR code to learn more about your impact across the church and world through the Grand Canyon Synod, or visit www.gcsynod.org for resources and info.



Communicate Jesus · Connect People · Create Possibilities

Plan ahead to join us for
Wednesday Evening Lenten Bible Study with Pastor Dennis D. Nelson

Wednesdays in Lent:

March 26

April 2, 9

5:30pm Soup Supper

6:00pm Lenten Bible Study

7:00pm Lenten Worship



Over the five Wednesday evenings during Lent - after Ash Wednesday - between the soup suppers and the Holden Evening Prayer - we will see eleven short clips from the full-length movie, "Following the Footsteps." These clips follow the ministry of Jesus from His baptism to His post-resurrection appearances and ascension. Seeing where these events in Jesus' life actually took place, Pastor Dennis Nelson will then lead us in a study of the relevant passages in the Gospels as we reflect on how they speak to our daily Christian lives. This movie was filmed during one of the "Footsteps of Jesus" pilgrimages led by Lutheran pastor and Bible teacher Bob Rognlien.

KNOCKED DOWN BUT NOT KNOCKED OUT

A Study of 2 Corinthians led by Pastor Dennis Nelson

Sunday Morning Adult Forum

April 27, May 11 and 25 at 9 AM

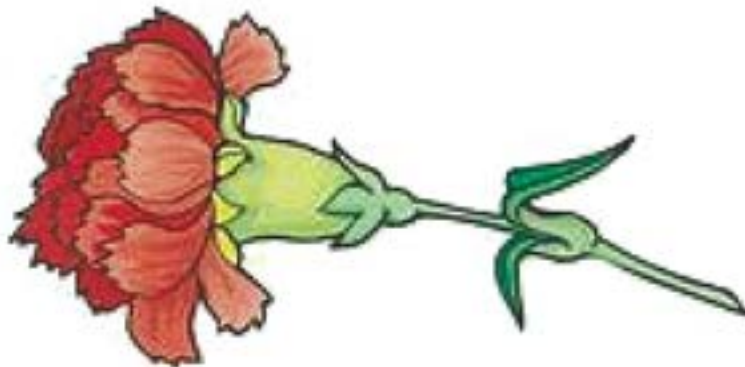
in the Choir Room



When have been the most difficult days of your life? How did your faith in Jesus help you get through them? Paul had been going through some terrible times when he wrote his second letter to the church in Corinth. He explains how his struggles helped make him more empathic towards others and more reliant on God and helped him learn that God's grace is all sufficient. This book can show you how your most severe struggles can do the same for you.

A warm welcome to our newest
Living Water Lutheran members:

Ann Cook
Mark Eisenhut
Joe & Barb Groebner
John and Jody Haggard
Zachary Haggard, Diana Nacorda & Hannah Haggard
Ann Madson
David Oglesby & Cherrie Heidemann-Oglesby
Jim and Alison Swanson



LWLC BOOK DRIVE NEVER ENDS!

Yes, this project has received great summer support during Vacation Bible School. However, please note we have a Book Drive basket located in the narthex all year poised to serve the needs of Phoenix social service agencies. New or gently used books are made available to babies through adults.

As a reminder, cookbooks and magazines with recipes continue to be requested. The chapel at UMOM New Day Centers is especially grateful for religious publications for children (and also adults.)

(Questions? Contact Sue Brash, 602-317-9444, or suebrash7@gmail.com)



Piecemakers Quilting

Join us on April 2nd and 16th

Come and tie quilts with us! Our quilting primarily supports Lutheran World Relief (LWR), and we also make quilts for refugee families and our high school graduates. **We meet on the first and third Wednesdays of the month, from 9 am to about noon, in the Education Building on the first floor.** Bring your own water or coffee for a

mid-morning break. If you're a winter visitor who likes to quilt, come and tie with us. If you like to sew, we can provide pre-cut squares to make quilt tops. We also accept donations of 100% cotton appropriate for quilting work, as well as donations to purchase batting. Many hands make light work! Questions? Ask Lynda Cales, Kay Bonar, Mary Nyberg, Cindy Ophaug, Lois Lucas or Myrna Ulland. Learn more about this ministry at www.lwr.org



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF (LWR) PERSONAL CARE KITS COLLECTION DURING LENT

It's that time again! Living Water's annual drive to collect items to fill Personal Care Kits for LWR. The list of items needed for each kit is below.

ONE light-weight bath-size towel, dark color recommended. Be sure to shop for light- or medium-weight towels, which are easier for Kit recipients to hand wash and air dry, take up less storage space and are considerably less expensive than the fluffier towels we may prefer to use. Bath towels vary in size. The **52" X 27"** size is the maximum size. 20" x 40" is a good guideline for a minimum size.

TWO or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz, any brand, in original wrapping.

ONE adult-size toothbrush in original packaging*

ONE sturdy comb, wide-toothed preferred. Remove packaging. NO pocket combs or picks.

ONE metal nail clippers (attached file is optional), remove packaging.

Please give new items only. Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name. Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.

All items should be new and in good condition.

*toothbrush multi-packs may be used; we seal them in an business-sized envelope during the kit making process

Collection bin is in the church entryway throughout the weeks of Lent, through Palm Sunday. Bring in a full kit, or any components. We will shop for any items needed, using a Thrivent Action Team grant as well as any money donations directed to "Personal Care Kits." Thank you for supporting this annual Lenten project of our Service and Caring Ministry Team. Questions? Please ask Ron and Cindy Ophaug or Myrna and Bob Ulland.

2025 VBS



Registration is now open for our 2025 Vacation Bible School program. Join us the week of June 16 for a week filled with great Bible stories, fun games, awesome crafts, fabulous music and a delicious take-home snack.



Date: June 16-20

Time: 9 - 11:30am



Go to <https://lwlcaz.org/vbs2025/> or click on the Education tab on our church website to register. We welcome children age 4 through 6th grade. Registration is free and every child receives a one-of-a-kind soft and comfortable t-shirt. Please spread the word to your children, grandchildren, friends and neighbors.

Interested in volunteering? Please contact Kris Crow at kcrow737@gmail.com. Youth going into 7th grade in the fall through age 90+ are invited to participate. You won't want to miss this amazing multi-generational event!



Church Choir Rehearsals for Holy Week and Easter



We are looking for church members who would like to sing with the choir during Holy Week and Easter Sunday!

Rehearsals are after each Lenten service on **Wednesdays.**
(**approx. 7:45pm**)

Speak or email Christina Hall (chall@lwlcaz.org)
if you have any questions.



*Today's altar flowers
were donated by Frances DeBruyn
to celebrate the anniversary
of her nephew Bob and his wife Leslie.*

Open the Door to Do More



When I came to the city of Troas to preach the
Good News of Christ, the Lord opened
a door of opportunity to me.
II Corinthians 2:12

Living Water's 25th Anniversary **Sunday, April 27**

10:00am Worship

5:00pm Dinner at Troon North Golf Club:

10320 E Dynamite Blvd, Scottsdale, AZ 85262

\$50.00 per person

If you haven't made a reservation yet, please register on our website:

<https://lwlcaz.org/25thanniversary/>

**Children are welcome! (ages 16 and under are free)*

**Rides are available for those who don't drive at night*

**Deadline to register is March 30*

Plan ahead to join us for:



Palm Sunday Worship Service

Sunday, April 13th at 10:00am



Maundy Thursday Worship Service

Thursday, April 17th at 7:00pm



Good Friday Worship Service

Friday, April 18th at 7:00pm



Easter Sunday Worship Service

Sunday, April 20th at 6:30am,

8:00am and 10:00am

9:15am Brunch

Gathering Hymn... "Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters"



1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow.
2 We who bring them long for nurture; by your milk may we be fed.
3 Oh, how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!



Num - ber them a - mong your peo - ple; bless as Christ blessed long a - go.
Let us join your feast, par - tak - ing cup of bless - ing, liv - ing bread.
To your name be glo - ry, hon - or! With our lives we worship, praise!



Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light.
God, re - new us, guide our foot - steps; free from sin and all its snares,
We your peo - ple stand be - fore you, wa - ter - washed and Spir - it - born.



Fill, a - noint them; send your Spir - it, ho - ly dove and heart's de - light.
one with Christ in liv - ing, dy - ing, by your Spir - it, chil - dren, heirs.
By your grace, our lives we of - fer. Re - cre - ate us; God, trans - form!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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Psalm 103 THE LORD IS KIND AND MERCIFUL



1-2 Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all my being, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.
Refrain.

3-4 He pardons all your iniquities, heals all your ills, He redeems your life from destruction, crowns you with kindness and compassion. *Refrain.*

6-7 The Lord, secrets justice and the rights of all the oppressed. He has made known his ways to Moses, and his deeds to the children of Israel. *Refrain.*

8, 11 Merciful and gracious is the Lord, slow to anger and abounding in kindness. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so surpassing is his kindness toward those who fear him.
Refrain.

Sermon Hymn... "As Rain From The Clouds"



1 As rain from the clouds will your word come to earth,
2 As grain that is scat - tered your word has been sown
3 As rays of the sun shall your word light the world,



as snow from the heav - ens re - fresh - ing the land.
on rocks and on road - ways, in good earth and sand.
a - wak - ing and warm - ing and heal - ing our land.



Then soft - en our soil that the good seed may grow
Make fer - tile our soil that the good seed may grow
Then shine in our hearts that the good seed may grow



and rip - en rich fruit to re - turn to your hand.
and rip - en rich fruit to re - turn to your hand.
and rip - en rich fruit to re - turn to your hand.



We praise you, our God, for the dew of your word;
We praise you, our God, for the seed of your word;
We praise you, our God, for the light of your word;



we thank you, good gar - d'ner, for your ten - der toil.
we thank you, good gar - d'ner, for your ten - der toil.
we thank you, good gar - d'ner, for your ten - der toil.

continued....

We bless you, best farm - er, for hun - dred - fold yield,
 We bless you, best farm - er, for hun - dred - fold yield,
 We bless you, best farm - er, for hun - dred - fold yield,

for har - vest of grace in our once - bar - ren soil.
 for har - vest of grace in our once - bar - ren soil.
 for har - vest of grace in our once - bar - ren soil.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: AFTON WATER. Jonathan E. Spilman, 1812-1896

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Sending Song... "Guide Me Ever Great Redeemer"

1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
 wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es

feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more,
 shield me with your might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
 I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.

Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873-1932

LIVING WATER

Living Water
Lutheran Church



Purpose Statement: "To Be and Make Disciples of Jesus Christ."

The Living Water
QR code for giving:



Living Water is a congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,
Grand Canyon Synod and
Northeast Valley Conference.

Ministers: All the members of Living Water

Pastor: Mark Rossman
PastorMark@lwlcaz.org

Pastor: Shari Bernau
PastorShari@lwlcaz.org

Office/Communications Manager: Jennifer Kelsh
jkelsh@lwlcaz.org

Finance Manager: Stephanie McLean
smclean@lwlcaz.org

Director of Music: Christina Hall
chall@lwlcaz.org

Associate Director of Music: Scott Sims
ssims@lwlcaz.org

In case of Pastoral Emergency, please call Pastor Mark at 973-699-7777 (mobile)

Publication Deadlines:
Connections- Every Tuesday by noon
SPLASH! - The 20th of each month by noon

