

CONNECTIONS



Living Water
Lutheran Church



March 30, 2025



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

Weekly CONNECTIONS Deadline—*Tuesdays at NOON*

We Remember in Our Prayers



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

REMINDER:

For on-line giving at Living Water please visit **LWLCaz.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 fall 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, April 13 –
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

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"

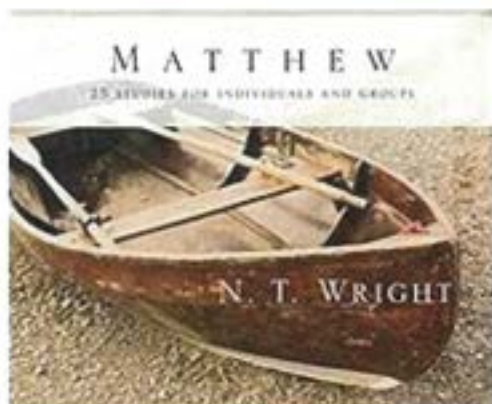
The large Hunger Jar is in the sanctuary during services, to the right of the water fountain. Offerings placed in the Hunger Jar are typically distributed 50/50 between local and international/global organizations or initiatives.



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!



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.com to be added.



Special Concert featuring **LA CHILDREN'S CHORUS**

Sunday, April 6

End of the worship service.

Support the 32 families who lost their homes in the LA fires by donating through this link or QR code:



www.lachildrenschorus.org/fire-relief/

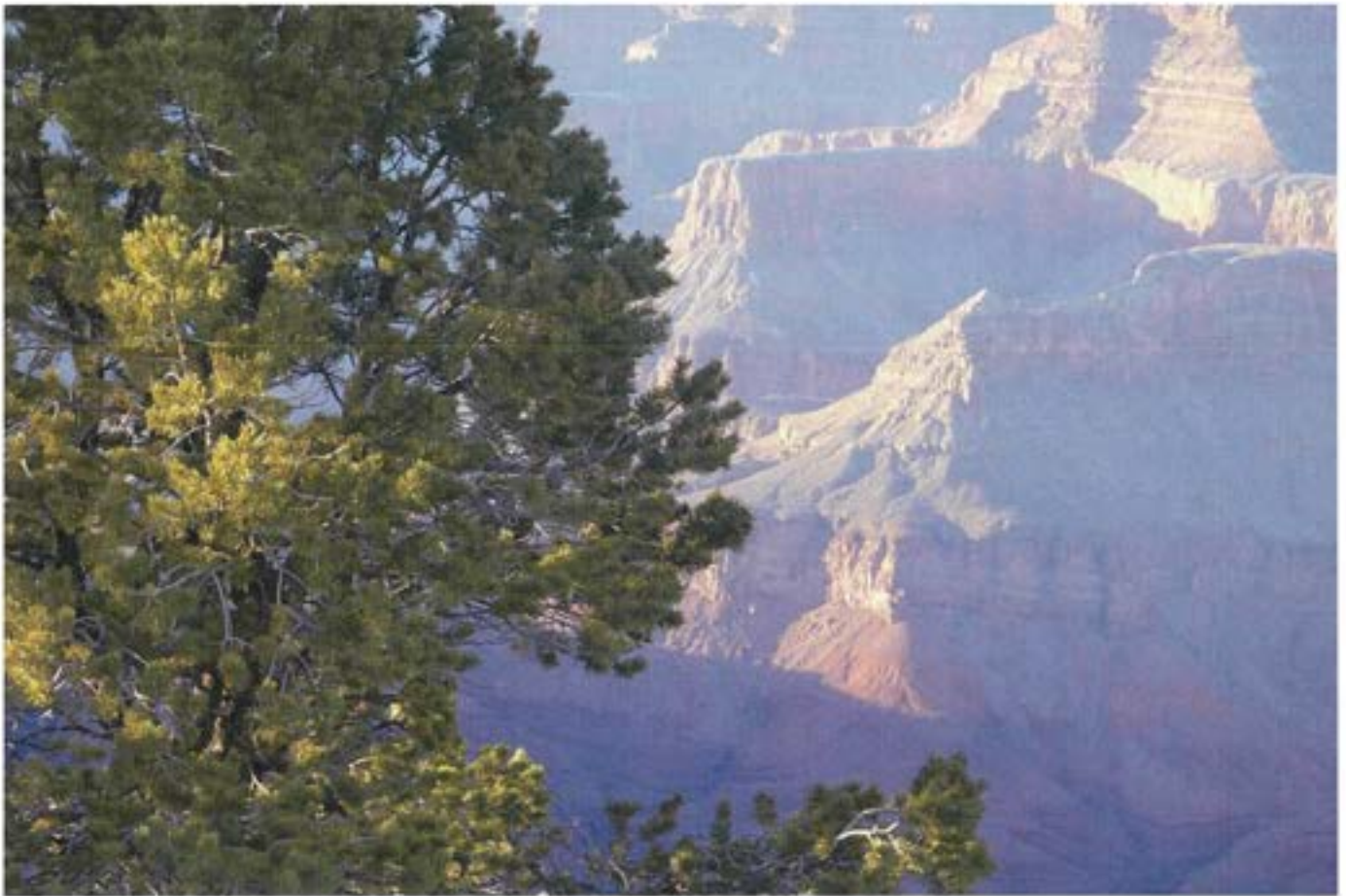


Piecemakers Quilting

Join us on April 2nd and 23rd

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



Deepen your connection to our Grand Canyon Synod

Sign up for the Synod Newsletter!

You are invited to subscribe to the Grand Canyon weekly synod e-newsletter. It arrives in your in-box every Friday morning at 8 a.m. The newsletter offers a wealth of stories from congregations and ministries within our synod, uplifting tales of faith in action, and insights into the work being done at the ground level within our broader church. The newsletter also brings you news from the partner ministries and organizations at the synod level, Region 2, the wider ELCA, and even updates from the global church, including Lutheran World Federation.

Be inspired by the work of others and help us weave a tighter fabric of community across our synod and beyond. Click one of the links below to subscribe:

[Get our newsletter — Grand Canyon Synod of the ELCA](#)

<https://www.gcsynod.org/newsletter>

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.



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.



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@lwlc.org)
if you have any questions.

Café

boldcafe.org

Monthly dinner
with Boldcafe
writers + friends
(B.Y.O.D.)

**April 3,
@ 7 pm (CST)**



BOLD CAFÉ BYOD in APRIL

April 3 at 5:00pm Arizona time

Bring your own dinner/bring your own drink and join in the Zoom conversation to learn more about Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) in preparation for MMIW Day on May 5.

Our host, Wanda Frenchman, will lead our conversation about creating awareness and taking action to advocate for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women.

This is a free event, but pre-registration is required: www.boldcafe.org/dinner

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)



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.

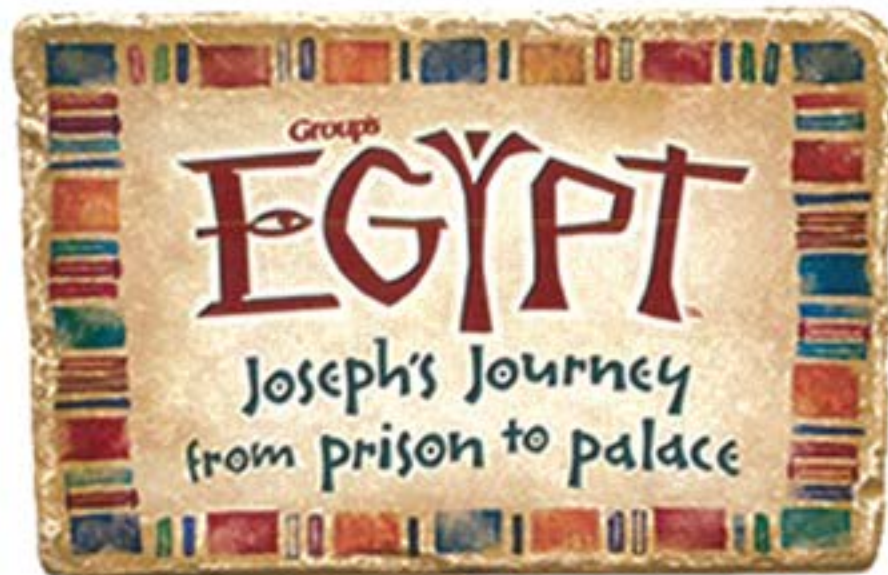
Please give new items only. Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name. Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.

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.

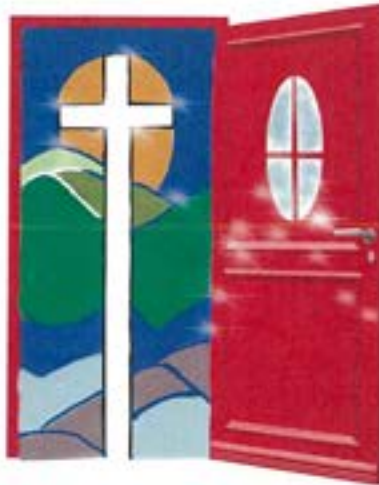
Interested in volunteering? Please contact Kris Crow at kcrow737@gmail.com. Youth going into 7th grade in the fall through age 90+ are invited to participate. You won't want to miss this amazing multi-generational event!



*Today's altar flowers
were donated by Ron Roessler
to celebrate he and Karen's
55th wedding anniversary*

Happy Anniversary!

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 **TODAY!*

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*

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.

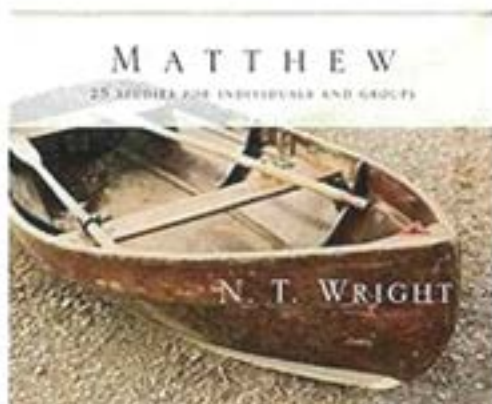


About our teacher:

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.

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

Wednesdays in Lent:

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.

Gathering Hymn... "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

Psalm 34 TASTE AND SEE THE GOODNESS OF THE LORD



2-3 I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall be ever in my mouth. Let my soul glory in the Lord; the lowly will hear me and be glad. *Refrain.*

4-5 Glorify the Lord with me, let us together extol his name. I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears. *Refrain.*

6-7 Look to him that you may be radiant with joy, and your faces may not blush with shame. When the poor one called out, the Lord heard, and from all his distress he saved him. *Refrain.*

Sermon Hymn... "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling"



1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for



you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain



watch - ing for you and for me.
mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!
par - don for you and for me.



You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847-1909
Music: THOMPSON, Will L. Thompson

Sending Song... "My Life Flows on in Endless Song"



1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,
2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899

Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, Robert Lowry, alt.

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

