

CONNECTIONS



Living Water
Lutheran Church



April 6, 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 Caddow (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
- o Friends and Family of Jim Tonneson

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.

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



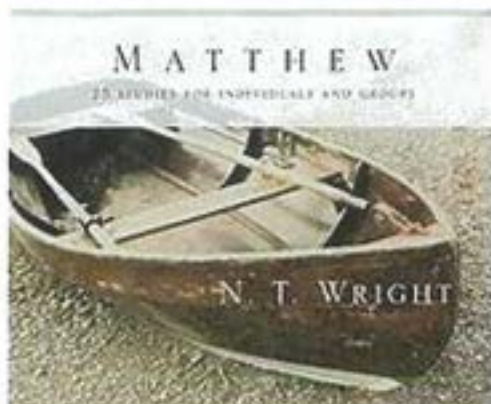
Good Friday Worship Service

Friday, April 18th at 7:00pm



Easter Sunday Worship Service

*Sunday, April 20th at
6:30am (SUNRISE SERVICE),
8:00am and 10:00am
9:15am Brunch*



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/

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 Soup Suppers

Soup Suppers will be held prior to Bible Study and Lenten Worship on

April 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!

Plan ahead to join us for

Wednesday Evening Lenten Bible Study with Pastor Dennis D. Nelson

Wednesdays in Lent:

April 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.

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.

A banner for the Synod 2025 Lenten Challenge. The background is a dark, textured image with warm colors (red, orange, yellow) and silhouettes of people. The text is overlaid in white and orange.

Region 2

Synod 2025

40-40-40 LENTEN CHALLENGE

Pledge today
to raise funds for NELM
through LDR, get access to
LENT DEVOTIONS,
and help your Synod
win ultimate
BRAGGING RIGHTS.

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>



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

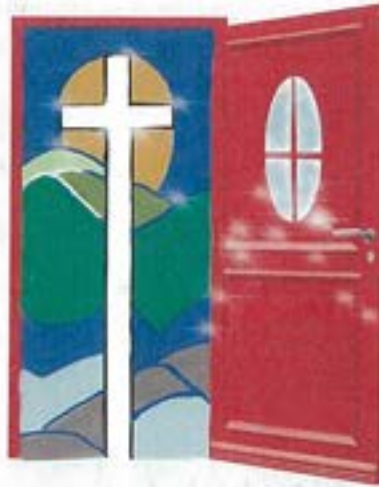


We are looking for church members who would like to sing with the choir during Holy Week and Easter Sunday!

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

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

Open the Door to Do More



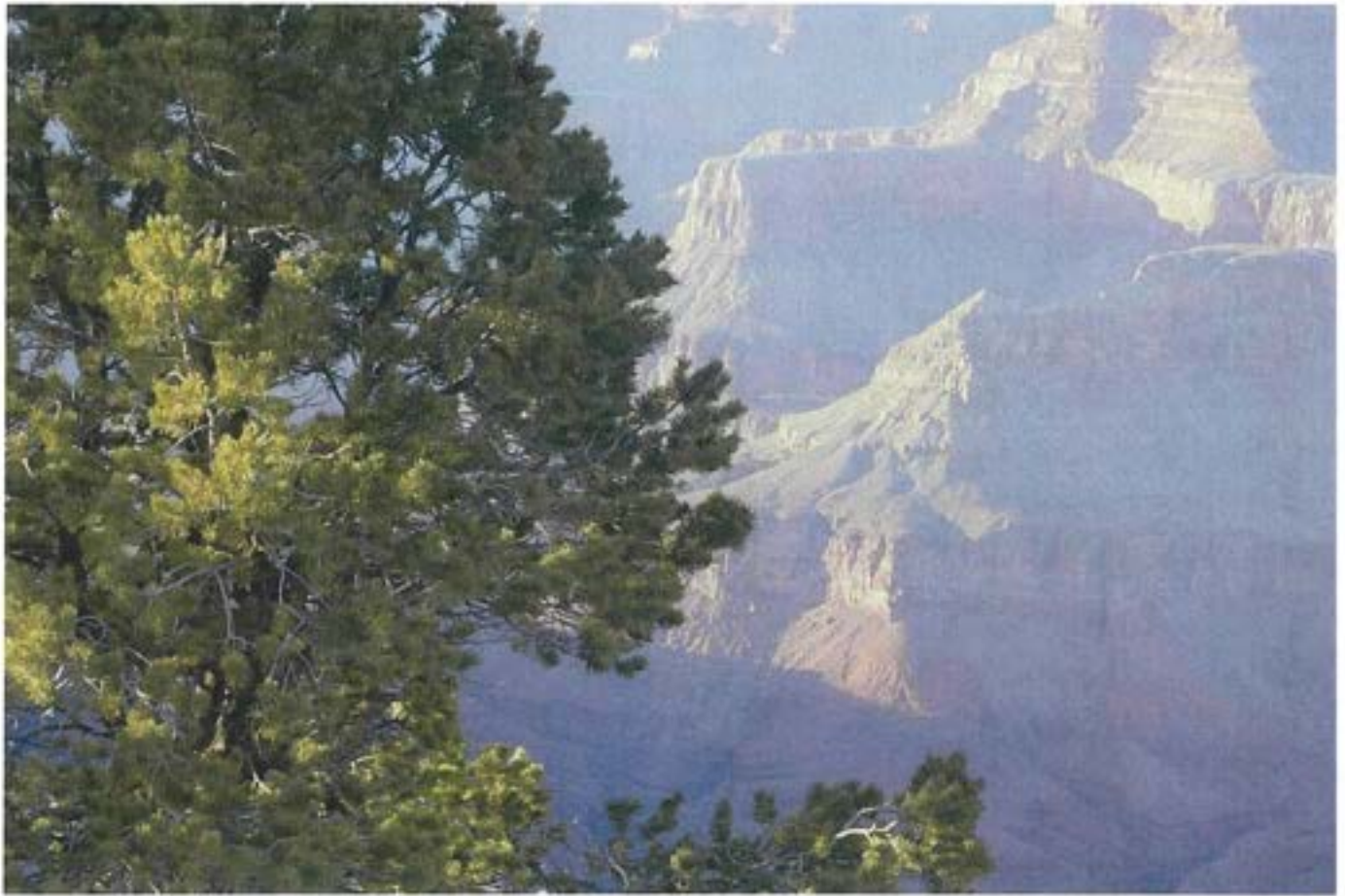
When I came to the city of Troas to preach the
Good News of Christ, the Lord opened
a door of opportunity to me.
II Corinthians 2:12

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 contact
Pastor Shari before April 6th:
PastorShari@lwlcaz.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>

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.

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.



Piecemakers Quilting

Join us on April 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



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.

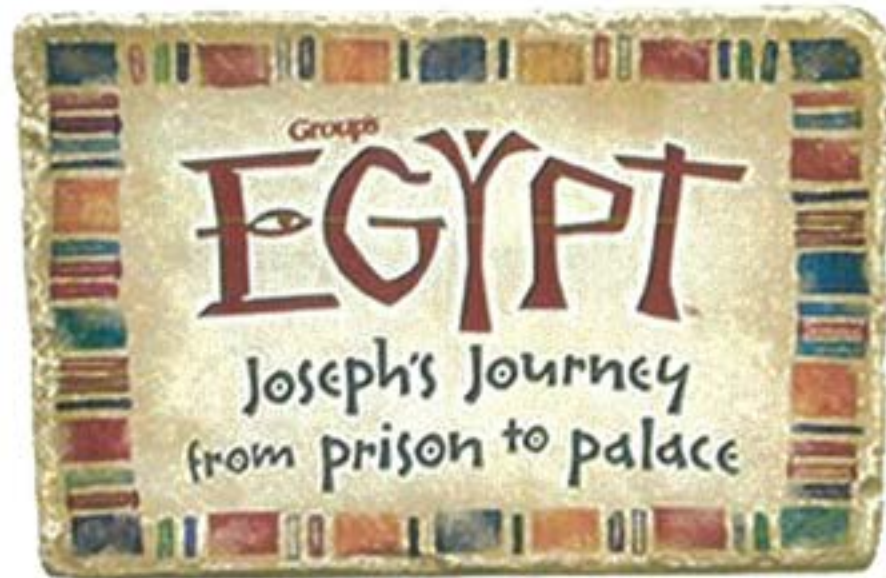
Please give new items only. Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name. Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.

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!



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)

*Today's altar flowers
were donated in honor of
Frances & Mike DeBruyn's
42 Wedding Anniversary.*

Happy Anniversary!



Gathering Hymn... "As We Gather at Your Table"



1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred,
where tri-um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;
There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy.



teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known,
as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenliedes en Contradansen*, 1710

Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Psalm 126 The Lord Has Done Great Things for Us

The Lord has done great things for us, we are glad in -
deed. [We are glad in - deed.]

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 12/8 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the text, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

1-2 When the Lord brought back the captives of Zion, we were like men dreaming. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with rejoicing. *Refrain.*

2-3 Then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them." The Lord has done great things for us; we are glad indeed. *Refrain.*

4-5 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the torrents in the southern desert. Those that saw in tears shall reap rejoicing. *Refrain.*

6 Although they go forth weeping, carrying the seed to be sown, They shall come back rejoicing, carrying their sheaves. *Refrain.*

Sermon Hymn... "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness;
4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,



no mer - it of my own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name,
clothed in his righ - teous - ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is



sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.

Musc: THE SOLID ROCK, William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868

Sending Song... "Take My Life, That I May Be"

Refrain/Estribillo

Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,
 to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;
 let them flow in cēase - less praise. less praise.

To stanzas | *Last time*

1 Take my hands and let them move
 3 Take my voice and let me sing
 4 Take my will and make it thine;

at the im - pulse of thy love;
 al - ways, on - ly for my King;
 it shall be no lon - ger mine;

take my feet and let them be swift and
 take my lips and let them be filled with
 take my heart, it is thine own; it shall

Refrain/Estribillo

beau - ti - ful for thee.
 mes - sag - es from thee.
 be thy roy - al throne.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, adapt.; Spanish text: Vincent Mendoza, 1875-1955
 Music: TOMA MI VOLUNTAD, William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956
 Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

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

