

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

918 S Litchfield Road
Goodyear Arizona 85338
(623) 932-2394

Interim Pastor Kim Sterner
pastorkim@christgoodyear.org
(602) 510-9575

Worship Bulletin

Access on our YouTube
channel

These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God's grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

Readings and Psalm

- Deuteronomy 26:1-11
- The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand
- Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
- God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways. (Ps. 91:11)
- Romans 10:8b-13
- If you confess that Jesus is Lord, you will be saved
- Luke 4:1-13
- The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness for forty days

Sunday, March 9, 2025
First Sunday in Lent

An Identity on Which We Can Rely

In Luke's gospel, the story of Jesus' temptation comes immediately after his baptism and a lengthy listing of his ancestors. Both help confirm the identity of Jesus as the Messiah and the Son of God. Now Jesus is led into the wilderness, where his identity is put to the test by the devil. The specific temptations are in some ways secondary to the question that introduces two of them. Twice the devil asks, "If you are the Son of

God . . .” (Luke 4:3, 9), perhaps implying that the devil believes he knows better than Jesus what it means to be God’s Son. But Jesus, “full of the Holy Spirit,” is able to stand firm in his identity and deny the devil’s attempts to redefine who he is.

In our baptisms, we too are given the identity of God’s child, and we are given the presence of the Holy Spirit. Our baptisms do not protect us from temptation, even as Jesus himself endured temptation. However, in our baptisms we are given an identity that can help us endure the temptations and the challenges that our lives are bound to include. Baptism gives us the confidence to trust that our identity is defined by our relationship to God, and not by anything else. In this confidence, we can accept our failures and shortcomings and live boldly in a manner that seeks to emulate Christ’s own life.

Interim Pastor

Kim Sterner

Music

Miloy Cañete

Reader

Mar 9 - Les Stubbs

Mar 16 - Ellory Christianson

Mar 23 - Mike Coyle

Mar 30 - Kathy Coyle

Ushers

Faith Hanley and Emma

Raymond Bigalk

Mar 23, 30 - Gene Myers

Mar 9, 16 - Jeaneite Lorenz

Altar/Communion

Carol Moonan

Norma Heinrich

Patsy & Emily Blankenship

Mar 9 - Les Stubbs

Sound/Tech

Ruben Salgado

Jim Hill

Flowers

Carole Helland

Banners

Judy Wandler

We remember in our prayers... (see email version)

Prayers of healing for Pope Francis

Bishops: Deborah K. Hutterer and Elizabeth Eaton

Area Churches: Community of Grace - Peoria; Peace - Peoria

Service Men/Women: (See email version)

***Submit or update prayer requests by emailing:
office@Christgoodyear.org, calling the church office:
623-932-2394, or complete an [online prayer request form](#).***

Upcoming events at CELC

Mar 9 - Pancake Breakfast volunteers @ Grace Lutheran Church
Mar 12 - Soup Supper @ 5pm and Lenten service @ 5:45pm
Mar 19 - Soup Supper @ 5pm and Lamentations/music (Miloy)@ 5:45pm
Mar 22 - Cactus Conference Women's Gathering (Yuma)
Mar 23 - CELC Outreach March Madness Cereal Brackets
Mar 26 - Soup Supper @ 5pm and Lenten service special guest @ 5:45pm
Apr 2 - Soup Supper @ 5pm and Lenten service/music (Miloy)@ 5:45pm
Apr 9 - Soup Supper @ 5pm and Healing service (Pr. Kim) @ 5:45 pm
Apr 16 - Palm Sunday - Adoration choir cantata

Join the Lenten Challenge



Looking for something to take on during Lent?

The 5 synods in ELCA Region 2 are challenging one another during the season of Lent to participate in a communal spiritual journey, this year centered on the theme, 'A Watered Garden'. Funds raised through Lutheran Disaster Response will support important water projects at the Navajo Lutheran Mission in Rock Point, Arizona. The challenge: Participate in some **spiritual and physical practices** (choose 3) during the 40 days of Lent. The synod with the most participants wins!

**There's still time to join with others in the Grand Canyon
Synod**

Easter Lily Orders



Honor or remember a loved one with an Easter Lily. The flowers will adorn our altar on Easter morning and will be available for you to take home after the 10:00 a.m. Easter worship service. The cost of the flowers is \$15. Order forms available at welcome table and may be put in offering basket.

Building & Grounds Coordinator

The Facilities & Maintenance council position is currently vacant. Jim Erickson has agreed and been authorized by the council to become the Building & Grounds Coordinator, but will not be a voting member on council. However, Jim will work with the council, keep the council updated on status of Building & Grounds items, and bring issues to the council that need their action.

Jim would like to create a team of individuals from the congregation to work with him on Building & Grounds related items. His expectation is that he would call on members of that team to help out with small projects that don't require an external contractor to take care of such as small painting project, special cleaning or organizing projects, minor plumbing, minor electrical, or other types of small projects. If you are willing to serve in this role, please sign up at the "God's Work, Our Hands" board indicating your expertise and what kind of projects you feel you could handle. You can also contact Jim directly.

For Building & Grounds significant issues or feedback, you may contact Jim at building@christgoodyear.org or text me at 630-235-6510. Jonathan Gonzalez continues as our day-to-day Facilities Manager and can be reached at facilities@christgoodyear.org. Jim and Jonathan will work together closely to manage the physical aspects of the CELC campus.

2025 Grand Canyon Synod Assembly

We are seeking 2 people to serve as voting delegates to the 2025 Grand Canyon Synod Assembly. Contact Carol Moonan or Ann Bruce for more information. Registration and travel expenses (car/hotel) paid by CELC. **View the 2025 assembly home page for full information.**

- Thursday, June 12, 2025 2:00 PM through Friday June 13, 2025 3:00 PM.
- Community Lutheran Church
- 3720 East Tropicana Avenue
- Las Vegas, NV, 89121 United States

Congregational Transition Meetings

- **2/16/25 - Mission** - The first meeting, focused on the CELC mission statement. [Click here](#) to see the presentation that was used to guide the discussion.
- **2/23/25 - Vision** - The second meeting focused on CELC Vision. [Click here](#) for the Vision presentation.
- **3/2/25 - Values/Goals** - The third meeting focused on CELC Values/Goals. [Click here](#) for the Values presentation.

The transition team will continue to meet and prepare a 2-3 page report that will be shared with the council and the congregation. We will then move on to electing a call committee during a special congregational meeting that we hope can be held in April (look for communications from the church council on the specific timing).

Thanks to all of you who have participated to help the transition team define who we are as a congregation. It is exciting to be moving forward in this process of calling a new pastor.

Transition team members:

Ann Bruce - Chairperson, Olga Blanchard, Patsy Blankenship, Jim Erickson, Stevie Henderson, Karen Olson, Les Stubbs

Lent and Easter Schedule

March 5 - Ash Wednesday Worship @ 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Imposition of ashes and communion at both services

Weekly Wednesday soup suppers beginning March 12 at 5:00 p.m. *and*
Lenten Wednesday worship with communion at 5:45 p.m.

LENT Soup & Salad Dinners

Hey! It's that time again ~

March 12, 19, 26. April 2, and 9.

Please consider signing up to share a family favorite soup, salad or dessert to
enjoy before Pastor Kim's
Weekly Lent Message.

Sign up on Sunday or on the dated clipboards on the wall. Everyone is invited!!!

Valerie Ellis 949-683-1954

Fellowship Chairperson

April 13 - Palm Sunday - Adoration Choir Cantata

April 17 - Maundy Thursday Seder meal and communion at 6:00 p.m.

April 18 - Good Friday worship service at 6:00 p.m.

April 20 -

- Easter Sunrise contemporary/praise worship at 7:00 a.m.
- Easter Breakfast @ 8:00 a.m.
- Easter Egg Hunt @ 8:30 a.m.
- Easter Festive Worship @ 10:00 a.m.

OUTREACH THROUGH SERVICE

I-HELP Meals

- **Mar 11 - Charla Seitz**
- **Mar 18 - Sue Addy & Su Erickson**
- **Mar 25 - Dorothy, Pam, Nancy, Laura, Gail & Marlene**

We are grateful for our volunteers who provide food for 14 people each week. Please deliver the food to Bldg. B at 4:45 p.m.



Canned fruit, cereal, rice, and beans

Donations are accepted on Sunday, Monday, & Tuesday mornings 8-10 a.m. or by appointment.

Youth and adult leaders visited New Dawn Livestock Rescue & Sanctuary March 1.



Women of the Cactus Conference Gather in Yuma to Learn, Connect, and Serve

Join Lutheran women across the Grand Canyon Synod for the

Cactus Conference Spring Gathering on **March 22** in Yuma, AZ. This year's theme, "Peace and Unity: Borders and Neighbors," will feature a keynote by former AZ State Senator, Amanda Aguirre, MA, RD. The gathering will also support Hunter's Army, an organization aiding families and children in need. Registration is \$15, due by March 17—carpool with friends for a day of fellowship, learning, and faith in action!

[For more information](#)

News from the West Valley Lutheran Thrift Shop Helping people live longer since 1994!

According to a *Stanford University Longevity Study*, "Engaging in productive activities, such as **volunteering**, may hold significant health benefits for older adults. Compared to their non-volunteering counterparts, older adults who volunteer have reduced risk of hypertension, lower mortality rates, delayed physical disability, enhanced cognition, lower rates of depression, and report higher levels of life satisfaction, and decreased physical dependency."

The Census Bureau reported in 2023, "more than 23% of people in the US, or 60.7 million people, formally volunteered 4.1 billion hours of their time through an organization contributing \$122.9 billion in economic value to their communities."

Who knew volunteering could be so beneficial? Helping yourself by helping others and making new friends in the process. I'm sure any of the 200+ folks who already join us weekly to volunteer would tell you this, as well. We would love to help you make a healthy choice for your life with us. Come by and take a tour and see if the LTS is a place where you can make a difference!

Keep up with the LTS by following us on Facebook.
<https://www.facebook.com/westvalleylutheranthriftshop/>

HELPFUL LINKS

Church **Directory**
Join Our Mailing
Simply **Giving** Application
Fry's Community **Rewards**: CELC #MW462

CELC Calendar

CELC Website

<https://www.christevangelical.org/staff-and-leadership>

Council Meeting Minutes Click on link above

Click on the highlighted word and it will take you to the link

Interim Pastor: Kim Sterner

Music: Miloy Cañete

Council President: Carol Moonan

CELC Office Phone: (623) 932-2394

***Please email office for appointments or special requests at
office@christgoodyear.org***

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