

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

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

Readings and Psalm

- **Acts 7:55-60**
- The martyrdom of Stephen
 - **Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16**
- Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)
 - **1 Peter 2:2-10**
- God's people chosen to proclaim God's mighty acts
 - **John 14:1-14**
 - Christ the way, truth, and life

Next Week's Readings

Acts 17:22-31~ Psalm 66:8-20 ~ 1 Peter 3:13-22 ~ John 14:15-21

Sunday, May 3, 2026 Fifth Sunday of Easter

The words of today's gospel are most often heard during a funeral service. It is a popular choice of scripture for that occasion because the words provide wonderful assurance that the one who has died in Christ has now taken up residence in their heavenly home. The gospel begins by Jesus saying that he will prepare a place for each one of us. But as the text continues, we can see that our place is not an isolated room of our own in a giant heavenly mansion. Jesus' words are less about a place than a relationship: our relationship with Jesus and God the Father. They tell us that in Jesus we know all we need to know about God, and just as we can have a relationship with another human person, we can also have a relationship with God that will one day be as real and obvious as are our relationships with one another. The hope of one day being with Christ fully and forever is as real as the works we are called to do in his name today.

This text allows us the opportunity to contemplate what is ultimately unknowable, yet is also a central part of our faith: what heaven will be like.

Worship Team

Interim Pastor: Kim Sterner

Music: Miloy Cañete

Assisting Minister:

May 3 - Les Stubbs

May 10 - Patsy Blankenship

May 17/24/31 - Tony Fabrello

Greeters:

May 3 - Nadine Kriegel, Jeaneite Lorenz, Sandy Gabel

May 10 - Judy Turnen, Jeaneite Lorenz, Sandy Gabel

May 17/24 - Barb & Norm Johnson, Faith Hanley

May 31 - Sue & Bob Addy

Readers:

May 3 - Ellory Christianson

May 10 - Rae Valabek

May 17 - Emily Blankenship

May 24 - Stevie Henderson

May 31 - Ann Bruce

Altar Guild:

May - Sue Addy & Julie Paisley

Altar Guild:

May - Sue Addy & Julie Paisley

Communion Assistants:

Emily & Patsy Blankenship

Ushers:

May 3 - Faith Hanley & Emma Gene Myers & Patti Santrizos

May 10 - Faith Hanley & Emma Joan & Bruce Haroldson

May 17 - Faith Hanley & Emma Gene Myers & Patti Santrizos

May 24/31 - Faith Hanley & Emma Renee Myers-Globe & Jerry Globe

Sound/Tech:

May - Magan Ratafsky & Ruben Salgado

Banners:

Judy Wandler

Flowers:

Kathie Townsend

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

Bishops: Deborah K. Hutterer, (Grand Canyon Synod), Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry (ELCA churchwide)

Cactus Conference Churches: Spirit of Grace - Surprise; American - Sun City

CELC Campus Churches: Casa del Rey, Hope Alive, Inglesia Cristiana Valle de Beraca, Vida Nueva

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](#).

Good News to Share!

CELC votes to call Pastor Jeff Hackler

On Sunday, April 26, at the Special Congregational Meeting, our members voted to call Pastor Jeff Hackler as our new Pastor! Almost 95% of the 100 members present voted to call him to CELC. He will start on July 1st, so his first Sunday with us will be July 5th.

We will have supply pastors after Pastor Kim leaves on May 10, until Pastor Jeff can be with us.

Many thanks to the Transition Team, the Call Committee, the Church Council and to the Congregation for your prayers that God would send us the right person at the right time!

Welcome, Pastor Jeff Hackler!

REACHING OUT TOGETHER



Tuesday Food Pantry

Are you leaving for the summer months? Clean out pantry and freezer before you leave and donate unopened food items to our CELC pantry.

Many of our snowbird volunteers have left for the summer. If you're available on Tuesday mornings this summer, consider volunteering a few hours at the CELC food pantry. Many hands make light work.

Help keep our pantry shelves full

Paper bags, canned fruit, canned tomatoes, canned pasta sauce, beans, rice, canned meat

Southwest Valley IHELP

URGENT REQUEST

Update from April 20 Advisory Council meeting - less than \$6000 in our bank account. We have applied for several grants, but will not hear of approvals and receive funds for several weeks. **Please consider a donation** to this program. Details may be found at the link below. If you have questions, please talk with Su Erickson or Pr. Kim.

Here's a [link](https://azcommunityimpact.org/#ihelp) to our landing page on the AZ Community Impact site, <https://azcommunityimpact.org/#ihelp>

Meals are being scheduled for May 29, June 5, and 19. Email the church office if you would like to prepare a meal for IHELP.

Su Erickson will contact you to confirm the date.

We also need donations of a hairdryer (1), sunscreen, foot powder, toothpaste and chapstick

CELC Facilities & Maintenance

Check out new Facilities page on CELC Web site

A new page has been added to the church website. <https://www.christevangelical.org/facilities>

This page has lots of good information about what is happening to our buildings and grounds. Specifically, it has the following:

- Maintenance Request form – use this if you see something around our facilities that you think needs some attention.

<https://www.christevangelical.org/facilities/maint-request>

- Volunteer opportunities – information on how to become involved on facility related projects.
- Near Term Projects – major projects that have been approved by the church council and are either in progress or being actively planned.
- Long Term Projects – major projects that are on a “wish list” to be done, but not approved by the church council. Funding has not yet been identified for these and will probably not be addressed until 2027+.
- Punch List – current list of detailed work items that are open and closed.

We encourage you to check it out and make use of the Maintenance Request form.

Parking Lot Repair and Impact

The church council has approved Parking Lot repairs and refresh. It is scheduled for 5/20 – 5/22. Construction equipment and the work will impact access during this interval.

Wednesday, 5/20, Asphalt Repairs. Lot closed starting 6:00am

Thursday, 5/21, Crack sealing, Seal Coat, stripe – Lot closed

Friday, 5/22, Finish work - Lot closed until 3:00pm

If you have questions, please contact the office or Jim Hill.



Special Project Funding Drive



We have two near term capital projects upcoming. The parking lot is being refreshed with asphalt repair, new sealcoating, and new striping. Building B classrooms/hallways, Building B Exterior Doors, and the Building A sanctuary are getting repairs and a fresh coat of paint. These are not covered by our regular budget. The Council is moving forward with these using designated/reserve funds, but we need to replenish those funds through your contributions.

To contribute to these projects, stop at the welcome table after service and select a square from the "donation" board that reflects the amount you wish to contribute to help pay for these projects. You can mark your envelopes with "Special Projects", put "Special Projects" on the memo line of your check, or if you wish to send electronically via Zelle, contact the office or the finance team for instructions. You can also go to the ["Giving" page](#) on our web site, click on "Give Now", and select special projects. Here you can do ACH from your bank account or use a credit card.

For more information, talk with Ann Bruce, Stewardship.



Pastor Kim's Farewell Dinner

CELC will host a farewell dinner Pr. Kim & Bob

WHEN: Friday, May 8 at 5:30 p.m.

WHERE: CELC Bldg B

Menu

Baked Rigatoni, Salad, Garlic Bread,
Dessert and Beverages

Sign up at the Welcome Table so that we can prepare enough food for this event.
Free will offering to help cover expenses

Single Mingle

All singles are welcomed to attend!

Tuesday May 12, 2026

1:00 p.m.

Mission BBQ

15333 McDowell Rd.

Goodyear, AZ

Contact Julie Paisley for more information.

Upcoming Events

May 3 - Celebrate CELC H.S. Seniors

May 8 - Pastor Kim Celebration dinner

May 10 - Pastor Kim's last day at CELC

May 12 - Single Mingle @ Mission BBQ

May 20-22 - CELC Parking Lot closures (repairs/sealing)

May 24 - PENTECOST (wear red)

May 25 - CELC Office CLOSED (in observance of Memorial Day)

Jun 3-5 - Bldg A painting

Jun 9-11- Bldg B classroom/hallway painting

Jun 14 - Book Exchange

Church **Directory**

Join Our **Mailing List**

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***

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church | 918 S. Litchfield Road | Goodyear, AZ 85338 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!