

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

918 S Litchfield Road
Goodyear Arizona 85338
(623) 932-2394
Interim Pastor Kim Sterner
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(602) 510-9575

Worship Bulletin

Access on our YouTube channel

In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.

Readings and Psalm

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Christ's resurrection: the fulfillment of God's promise to David

Psalm 16

In your presence there is fullness of joy. (Ps. 16:11)

1 Peter 1:3-9

New birth to a living hope through the resurrection

John 20:19-31

Beholding the wounds of the risen Christ

Next Week's Readings

~ Acts 2:14a, 36-41 ~ Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 ~ 1 Peter 1:17-23 ~ Luke 24:13-35 ~

Sunday, April 12, 2026 Second Sunday of Easter

Welcomed with Open Arms

Thomas is not the only one missing from the assembly the Sunday after Easter Sunday. We are not told why Thomas is missing, but we do know why plenty of other folks are absent from the assembly: vacations, traveling, spring break for the kids.

Thomas is criticized for doubting, but he asks for nothing more than the same experience of the risen Christ the rest of the disciples had. By the grace of God, Jesus returns a second time and offers his body as living proof to Thomas. In the presence of Jesus, Thomas discovers he did not need the proof he demanded. Thomas' story is our story. We are not always where we need to be. Sometimes we even find ourselves in places we should not be at all. But Jesus comes to us,

seeking us out and giving us the gift of faith. Thomas is not criticized, he is not condemned. Instead Jesus loves Thomas back into a relationship and shows the disciples what the words “Peace be with you” mean when lived out.

The resurrection promise can be heard through Peter’s powerful preaching in the reading from Acts as well. Jesus will triumph over death. Peter points to Jesus’ death on the cross, but what of the little ways we die? The loss of relationships, the ending of friendships, the pain of being alone and left out, the despair of losing a job, the doubt that comes on the heels of a negative diagnosis. Jesus comes to bring a holy peace and resurrection into the world in these times as well. This Sunday is an opportunity to proclaim the power of the resurrection and the grace of God, who welcomes Thomas with open arms.

Worship Team

Interim Pastor: Kim Sterner

Music: Miloy Cañete

Assisting Minister:

Les Stubbs

Greeters:

Apr 12/19 Ken & Karen Olson,
Sandy Gabel

Apr 26 Olga & John Blanchard,
Sandy Gabel

Readers:

Apr 12 - Patsy Blankenship

Apr 19 - Jeaneite Lorenz

Apr 26 - Elaine Carlson

Altar Guild:

Renee Myers Globe & Jerry Globe

Communion Assistants:

Emily & Patsy Blankenship

Ushers:

Apr 12/19

Faith Hanley & Emma

Gene Myers & Patti Santrizos

Apr 26

Faith Hanley & Emma

Joan & Bruce Haroldson

Sound/Tech:

Ruben Salgado & Stacy Anderson

Banners:

Judy Wandler

Flowers:

Kathie Townsend

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

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

Cactus Conference Churches: St. John's - Glendale; Community of Grace - Peoria

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](#).

Book Exchange Sunday April 12

Come a few minutes early or stay after worship and browse the many books that members have donated to the book exchange, hosted by Judy Turnen. Books will be set up outdoors if weather permits. David Gregor will deliver leftover books to the VA.

Update from the Call Committee and Council

We have news!

The Call Committee and your Church Council have promised we would share news with you about a potential new pastor for CELC as soon as it was available. We now have some news!

Pastor John (Jeff) Hackler has expressed interest in CELC! Both the Call Committee and Church Council have met with him and we are recommending him to the congregation for your approval. You have the ultimate say about whether he will become our new Pastor. We have scheduled a special congregational meeting for **Sunday, April 26**, immediately following our worship service. At this time all voting members will have the opportunity to vote for three things.

1. To extend a call to Pastor Jeff Hackler.
2. To offer a compensation package to Pastor Jeff Hackler. (Package will be explained at the meeting on 4/26).
3. To adjust our Annual Budget to reflect the changes necessary to offer this compensation package to Pastor Jeff Hackler. (Also will be explained)

Meet and Greet Opportunities

You will have two opportunities to Meet and Greet Pastor Jeff in person. First, you are invited to come to an informal Lunch Open House on **Friday, April 17, from 11am - 2pm** in Building B Sanctuary. Drop in any time during these hours. You are also invited to meet him at Tech Day on **Saturday, April 18, from 10am - 12pm** in the classrooms of Building B. You may also have your technology questions answered by the youth while you are there! **Remember to wear your CELC name tag!**

You may hear and see Pastor Jeff preach at Lord of Life, utilizing their YouTube channel which contains links to all their services. We encourage you to do this! He will not be able to preach at CELC before our special congregational meeting. Here is the You Tube link.

<https://www.youtube.com/@LordofLifeLutheranChurch/streams>

[Click here to read more about Pastor Jeff](#)

REACHING OUT TOGETHER

Tuesday Food Pantry



St. Mary's Food Bank awarded two grants to CELC this month. One is for a new commercial refrigerator and the other is an unrestricted grant for \$1500.

Help keep our pantry shelves full

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

Southwest Valley IHELP

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 **small sunscreens, foot powder, toothpaste and chapstick**

[April IHELP newsletter](#)

Healthcare Decisions: What Families Miss Before a Crisis

This webinar will highlight common gaps in healthcare planning and how these decisions can affect the entire family, and ways to approach.

Healthcare Decisions: *What Families Miss Before a Crisis*

- **April 13, 2026**
- 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM MT

For more information click [here](#).

Youth and Senior Tech Day

Event Overview

Are your smartphones causing you trouble? Join us for Youth and Senior Tech Day, where seniors can engage with youth to discuss their technology concerns and challenges. This event encourages a two-way learning process—seniors can challenge the youth with their questions, and together, everyone can share knowledge and experiences.

Topics and Activities

- Exporting pictures
- Downloading music
- Using social media platforms such as Instagram and Facebook
 - Exploring other smartphone features

If the youth are knowledgeable in these areas, seniors may also have opportunities to teach and share their own expertise, fostering mutual learning.

Event Details

Date: April 18

Location: Building B classrooms

Time: 10:00 AM

If you have concerns about your laptop, feel free to bring it along for assistance.

Please fill out the [survey](#) to let us know of your interest.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/D5ZLTHD>

Rooted IN God's Story

Would you like an opportunity to represent CELC at the Grand Canyon Synod Assembly, June 11-13, 2026? Beth and Patsy Blankenship have already volunteered to serve as our delegates. Patsy will serve as a youth delegate. We still have an opening for one more adult delegate. More information may be found at the assembly [website](#). Please talk with Carol Moonan, Council President if you are interested in this opportunity. Registration and mileage are covered by CELC.

As part of the 2026 Synod Assembly under the theme "Rooted in God's Story," the Grand Canyon Synod is creating a **community recipe book — Rooted at the Table**. This is more than a cookbook. It is a collection of memory. Of culture. Of faith passed around tables. [Click here](#) for more information on submitting a recipe to this community recipe book. Reach out to Beth Blankenship at 480-450-6687 or bengels77@gmail.com if you need help submitting your recipe.



Volunteerism is alive & well here!

In March, we held our annual Volunteer Appreciation dinner where we celebrated the hundreds of volunteers who generously give thousands of hours each year at the shop and from home. According to IndependentSector.org, the value of a volunteer hour in Arizona was \$34.49 in 2025.

Those donated hours save the shop millions of dollars in salaries - money that can instead be granted to many West Valley non-profits. Way to go, volunteers - that's good business!

Their generosity is also a wonderful example of faith in action - neighbors helping neighbors and sharing God's love through service.

Join us, won't you? Shop with us, donate your gently used goods, or become a volunteer. Bring your donations to our back door on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00am - 3:00pm. We pick up furniture (and large items) from smoke-free, pet-free homes by appointment. Call us today to schedule a tour or a donation pick-up at 623-815-7061. Check out our website www.lutheranthrift.com for more shop info and pictures and follow us on [Facebook.com/westvalleylutheranthriftshop](https://www.facebook.com/westvalleylutheranthriftshop) for weekly sales and special events

Hear CELC member Larry Kleingartner sing with the

Orpheus Men's Chorus

A graphic for an American road trip. It features a map of the United States with a red line tracing a route through the western states. Several yellow road signs are placed along the route, pointing to Utah, New Mexico, Los Angeles, Phoenix, San Francisco, San Diego, and Idaho. In the top left corner, there is a red wax seal with the Orpheus Male Chorus of Phoenix logo and the text 'SINCE 1929'. The title 'American Roadtrip' is written in a large, red, cursive font, with 'Songs from Every Mile' in a smaller, red, sans-serif font below it. In the bottom right corner, there is a vintage red and black gramophone with a large horn.

Orpheus
MALE CHORUS
OF PHOENIX
SINCE 1929

American Roadtrip

Songs from Every Mile

Saturday, April 11, 3 p.m.
St. Matthew United Methodist Church | Mesa

Sunday, April 12, 3 p.m.
Pinnacle Presbyterian Church | Scottsdale

Sunday, April 19, 3 p.m.
Camelback Bible Church | Paradise Valley

Sunday, April 26, 3 p.m.
American Lutheran Church of Sun City

Life Line Screening

CELC is hosting Life Line Screening **Thursday, April 30.**

Time is running outsign up today!

Did you know?

"80% of strokes are preventable, according to the American Heart Association and Life Line Screening provides valuable health screenings to detect the risk of stroke and cardiovascular disease".

You can take advantage of these health screenings today by signing up for the complete stroke screening package which includes four screenings for vascular disease.

Appointment times are filling up! Please don't miss your chance to make your appointment today before the event is full!

Pre-registration is required. Sign up now by calling toll free to **1-800-324-9458** or **text** the word "**circle**" to **216-279-1607** or visit **LLSA.SOCIAL/HABC**.

For more information and to book an appointment, [click here](#).

Upcoming Events

Apr 11 - Saturday Bible Study ***new time* 9am**

Apr 12 - Book Exchange

Apr 12 - Blood Pressure Checks

Apr 17- Meet & Greet Pastor Jeff Hackler

Apr 18 - Computer Tech with Youth

Apr 18 - Meet & Greet Pastor Jeff Hackler

Apr 19 - CELC Council meeting

Apr 23 - CELC Book Club

Apr 26 - Special Congregational Meeting

Apr 30 - Life Line Screening

May 8 - Pastor Kim Celebration dinner

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

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***

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