

# Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

918 S Litchfield Road  
Goodyear Arizona 85338  
(623) 932-2394  
Interim Pastor Kim Sterner  
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Worship Bulletin

Access on our YouTube channel

Today, we encounter the paradox that defines our faith: Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We too are full of paradox: like Peter, we fervently desire to follow Christ, but find ourselves afraid, denying God. We wave palms in celebration today as Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as his path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ's broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin this week that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.

## Sunday, March 29, 2026 Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday

### True Humility

The servanthood of a teacher in Isaiah, the outcast in the psalm, those who bow down in Philippians: today's readings teach humility. On this day we move from Christ's triumphant ride on a humble donkey to the humiliation of the cross. The humility of the characters in the passion story is in question: Judas, Pilate, the Twelve, chief priests and elders, Barabbas, the crowd, the soldiers, two bandits. Among other things, their lack of humility is what brings about the passion of Christ. There is only one truly humble person in this story: Jesus the Christ. Matthew's humble Jesus cries out from the cross to ask God why he has been forsaken.

Only in the stories of the resurrection do other humble characters appear: the centurion, the women, Joseph of Arimathea. A careful look at the complexity of humility in the palm and passion stories could set up a reflective theme carried through to Easter. Who in each story do we regard as humble? Why? How does our humility compare? Are there characters who seem to gain or lose humility in the course of the story from the triumphant entry to the resurrection? A deep and meaningful understanding of humility is a worthy and lasting gift to take away from the season of Lent and the celebration of Easter.

Joseph of Arimathea is a particularly good character on which to base an understanding of humility. A close look at all references to him in the Gospels, and a bit of creative narrative, create an image of a truly humble believer. He is referenced in both canonical and apocryphal texts. His devotion represents deep humility that leads to the very finest of good works as he cares for the body of Jesus.

### Worship Team

**Interim Pastor:** Kim Sterner

**Music:** Miloy Cañete

### Assisting Minister:

Mar 29/Apr 5 Patsy Blankenship

Apr 12/19/26 Les Stubbs

### Greeters:

Mar 29 - Mark & Ellen Brogie

Joan & Bruce Haroldson, and

David Gregor

Apr 5, 10am - Mark & Ellen Brogie

Joan & Bruce Haroldson, David

Gregor, and Judy Turnen

### Readers:

Apr 5, 7am - Ellory Christianson

10am - Jeanne Foster

Apr 12 - Patsy Blankenship

Apr 19 - Jeaneite Lorenz

Apr 26 - Elaine Carlson

### Altar Guild:

Mar 29 - Norma Heinrich & Nancy

Kleingartner

Apr - Renee Myers Globe & Jerry

Globe

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Mar 29 - Norma Heinrich & Nancy

Kleingartner

Apr - Renee Myers Globe & Jerry

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### Communion Assistants:

Mar 29 - Patsy & Emily

Blankenship

Apr 5 7am - Ellory Christianson

10 am - Emily & Patsy

Blankenship

### Ushers:

Mar 29

Jo-Ann & Fred Wordell

Faith Hanley & Emma

Apr 5

7am - Faith Hanley & Emma

10 am - Mary Ellen Crane, Carol &

Dave Moonan

Apr 12/19

Faith Hanley & Emma, Gene

Myers, & Patti Santrizos

Apr 26

Faith Hanley & Emma, Joan &

Bruce Haroldson

### Sound/Tech:

Mar 29 - Jim Hill/Ruben Salgado

Apr 2/3 - Jan & Wes Yost

Apr 5, 7am - Ruben Salgado

10am - 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:** Lord of Life - Sun City; Spirit of Grace - Surprise

**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](mailto:office@Christgoodyear.org),  
**calling the church office:** 623-932-2394, or complete an [online prayer request](#)

## REACHING OUT TOGETHER



### IHELP

**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 1, 15, 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**

### Tuesday Food Pantry

Paper and plastic bags, canned fruit, canned tomatoes, canned pasta sauce

## LENT/HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

### March 29

Palm Sunday and Adoration Choir & Orchestra Cantata @ 9:00 a.m.

### April 2

Maundy Thursday Worship w/ communion @ 7:00 p.m.

### April 3

Good Friday Worship @ 7:00 p.m.

### April 5

Easter Sunrise Contemporary Worship @ 7:00 a.m.

Easter Breakfast - 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. in Bldg A Fellowship Hall

Easter Egg Hunt - 8:30 a.m.

Easter Basket Raffle - 9:00 a.m.

Easter Festival Service @ 10:00 a.m.



### Easter Lilies

Order a Lily to adorn our worship space for our Easter services. Flowers are \$15 each, and you can give your plant in honor or memory of a loved one, or a special occasion. **Order**

**deadline is March 29.** Please order your flowers online [here](#) or by using the form at

the Welcome Center. You can take your Lily home after the 10:00am Easter Festival Service on April 5.



## EASTER BASKET RAFFLE

PROCEEDS GO TO THE  
YOUTH CAMP TRIP



## Easter Basket Raffle

Stop by the Welcome Center on Sunday mornings and view the Easter Baskets that will be raffled off on Easter morning at the Easter Breakfast. All funds raised from the purchase of raffle tickets will help send our CELC Youth to Campformation.

## *Easter* BREAKFAST

APRIL 5 | 8AM-9:30AM | BLDG A

*Free Will Offering*

### MENU

EGG CASSEROLES  
SCRAMBLED EGGS  
HAM AND SAUSAGE LINKS  
BREAKFAST POTATOES  
SAUSAGE GRAVY  
BISCUITS  
FRESH FRUIT  
SLICED TOMATOES  
PASTRIES  
JUICE AND COFFEE

*Easter Basket Raffle at 9am*

## Join us for Easter Breakfast

CELC will be serving Easter breakfast between 8:00 and 9:30 a.m. in the Bldg A Fellowship Hall. Skip Hood and Valerie Ellis are doing the cooking and treating us to a full menu of goodies.

Last chance to win one of the raffle baskets that will be called at 9:00 a.m.

Free will offering.

## Special Message from Pastor Kim & CELC Council

March 24, 2026

To my dear friends at CELC,

I need to inform you about a decision I have made. I will be ending my interim position at your church at the conclusion of service on May 10, 2026, Mother's Day.

The reason for this decision is in part because Bob and I will be traveling in May and early June for two grandsons' high school graduations. One in Kansas and one in Oregon. That's lots of traveling.

When I get back from Oregon, I will be traveling with my sister Lois to Scotland for two weeks. We are in a choir directed by a friend of hers that takes these trips

every year. This is the first one we will do together.

When I get back from that it will be July.

I am going to try my best to retire again.

After being sick these last weeks, I realize my constitution is not what I want it to be. My body and my mind, and my husband and my sisters, are telling me it is time.

This will leave a huge hole in my heart as you all have found a place there in this short time, we have been together. I remain confident that CELC will find the right pastor to continue working with you in your extraordinary ministries. God's got this!

I will keep you all in my heart and prayers. Thank you for letting me be a part of this wonderful church.

Blessings,  
Pastor Kim Sterner

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## Message from CELC Council

We at CELC have come to know and love our Pastor Kim while she has been with us. We are very sad to see her go, but must understand her reasons.

Having Pastor Kim with us during this part of our transition has been a special gift. We now must trust that God will answer our prayers and provide us with a new pastor who will best meet the needs of our congregation, and allow us to continue to pursue our mission.

Our Fellowship Committee will provide an opportunity to celebrate Pastor Kim and Bob and wish them both Godspeed at a farewell dinner on Friday, May 8. More details to follow. We will also have a special coffee after church on her final day with us, May 10.

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## FREE MONEY WITH NO STRINGS ATTACHED!

That's essentially what Choice Dollars are. If you are already a Thrivent Member, Choice Dollars are now available for use and **can be designated up through March 31, 2026**. If you have already designated your Choice Dollars to Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church - THANK YOU!

If you are considering joining Thrivent, or just want more information about how this program works, read on.

As a member, Thrivent encourages YOU to participate in distributing a portion of its charitable funds each year. That's correct – you tell Thrivent where you want your Choice Dollars to be designated among thousands of enrolled nonprofit organizations, including churches, schools, outdoor & campus ministries and other nonprofit organizations close to your heart. Since its inception in 2010, Thrivent has distributed over 619 million dollars through Choice Dollars. That's a lot of financial support (free money) for places and causes that make a difference in our everyday lives. And, as an added bonus, Thrivent covers all processing fees, so every dollar you give goes directly to support your chosen organization.

Want to designate your Choice Dollars for this year? Attached **here** you will find step-by-step instructions on how to do that both online and by phone.



## Stephen Ministry Opportunity

Dear Christ Lutheran friends,

I am new to our Congregation, but a long time Lutheran. I grew up in Ridgecrest Ca. I attended Grace Lutheran there, baptized, confirmed and married there.

In 2006, I trained as a Stephen Minister. We are trained to come alongside others during a difficult time in someone's life. This ministry fit well with my gift of

caring, faith and patience.

In 2012 I trained as a Stephen Minister Leader. I learned to train others to become Stephen Ministers. Also tapping into another of my gifts of teaching. It has brought a great deal of personal meaning and a continued growth in Christ to be a Stephen Minister and Leader.

I believe I am being called to share these gifts with my new Church family. My first step is to find out who is trained already as a Stephen Minister and join me in activating this meaning and fulfilling ministry. There are hurting people who need us to share the love of Christ in this meaningful ministry.

Please contact me if any questions.

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Blessings, Maria DeRush

## Singles Gathering

Hey Singles! Last Thursday's meeting went really well! 4 singles showed up and we had a phone in participant! Lots of ideas were discussed concerning future events. Our first gathering is at BJs on McDowell, **Thursday April 9th** at 11:30 for lunch and sharing! Interested parties need to contact Valerie Ellis.

# 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>

## Hear CELC member Larry Kleingartner sing with the Orpheus Men's Chorus



The poster features a red wax seal logo for the Orpheus Male Chorus of Phoenix, established in 1929. The title 'American Roadtrip Songs from Every Mile' is written in a large, elegant script. Below the title, a map of the United States is shown with a red line tracing a road trip route. Several yellow road signs are placed along the route, pointing to Utah, New Mexico, Los Angeles, Phoenix, San Francisco, San Diego, and Idaho. To the right of the map, a vintage gramophone is depicted. The poster lists four performance dates and locations:

- 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.**

Life Line Screening is the nation's leader in **Stroke and Cardiovascular Risk** Screening. Special pricing for \$129.

Get screened and identify your risk level for the following diseases:

1. Carotid Artery Disease
2. Peripheral Artery Disease
3. Atrial Fibrillation
4. Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm

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

## Upcoming Events

Apr 12 - Book Exchange  
Apr 18 - Computer Tech with Youth  
Apr 19 - CELC Council meeting  
Apr 23 - CELC Book Club  
Apr 30 - Life Line Screening  
May 8 - Pastor Kim Celebration dinner

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](mailto:office@christgoodyear.org)**

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