

VERSE OF THE WEEK

"He will receive blessing from the Lord and vindication from God his Savior."
Psalm 24:5

WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday 4:00 pm
Sunday 8:30 & 10:30 am



AMERICAN LUTHERAN SUN CITY

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 11

"Veteran's Day Celebration"

4:30 DAN REED



5:15 CATERED DINNER

Fried Chicken, Cheesy Potatoes, Coleslaw, Green Beans, Apple Pie

6:00 ADM. CECIL HANEY



See www.alcsuncity.org/WednesdayNightAlive to buy tickets!

SCRIPTURE FOR SERVICE

Lesson:
Revelation 21:1-6a
Psalm 24
Gospel:
John 11:32-44

MIDWEEK MESSAGES

November 3, 2021

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR LOWELL

The Lutheran Definition of a Saint

This coming weekend, we commemorate dear members who died in the past year from last November 1st through October 31st, this past week's Reformation Sunday. It is a privilege to serve American Lutheran Church and our ministry of proclaiming the Gospel, even in the midst of death. Pandemic concerns continue to highlight our confrontation with mortality, but we continue to step forward in faith, confident our eternal home is with the Lord!

Lutheran theology states the definition of a saint is a forgiven sinner--you and me! ☺

Remember, this definition isn't meant to elevate our ego or diminish sin but exalting Christ and his work of salvation. Luther wrote his partner in ministry, Philip Melanchthon, with the following:

***Be a sinner, and let your sins be strong (sin boldly),
but let your trust in Christ be stronger,
and rejoice in Christ
who is the victor over sin, death, and the world.***

I paraphrase it as, "Don't live your life small by trying not to make any mistakes; be bold, rejoice and share the love of Christ with your neighbor". Our mission states it this way:

***"Proclaim the love of Jesus Christ,
invite others to participate in our faith community,
and be a blessing to all in word and deed.***

Let's be bold in our proclamation, invitation and blessing and inspired by the Holy Spirit, build "Ministry Momentum" together. Here are a couple of examples:

- Grief Support Group- Tuesdays at 1:30 pm in the Lounge; I am so thankful for Linda Shirck's wise and graceful facilitation of this important small group. Come and see what mutual support can mean to one another in Christ's name!

- WNA! This simple acronym means so much to us--Wednesday Night Alive! Let's get back into the pattern of inviting friends, family, and neighbors to join us for inspired music, education and fellowship over food. It's a great time to be the Church!

- Men's Bible Study- Men, you are invited to join other men each Thursday at 8 am in Education A&B to study the upcoming Gospel message and deepen friendships. I heard Don Anderson is bringing Apple Fritters! ☺

Let our trust in Christ be strong and rejoice in the Victory of Christ!

Blessings to all,

Pastor Lowell

“LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS” A CANTATA BY MICHAEL JOHN TROTTA

On Sunday, November 14th, at 3:00 p.m., the ALC Choir, accompanied by organist James Gerber and the Desert Rose String Quartet, will present “Light Shines in the Darkness.” This free concert is open to all. This short cantata, about 35 minutes, is in 8 movements and uses 8 texts set to music to offer comfort, assurance, hope and joy to all in attendance.

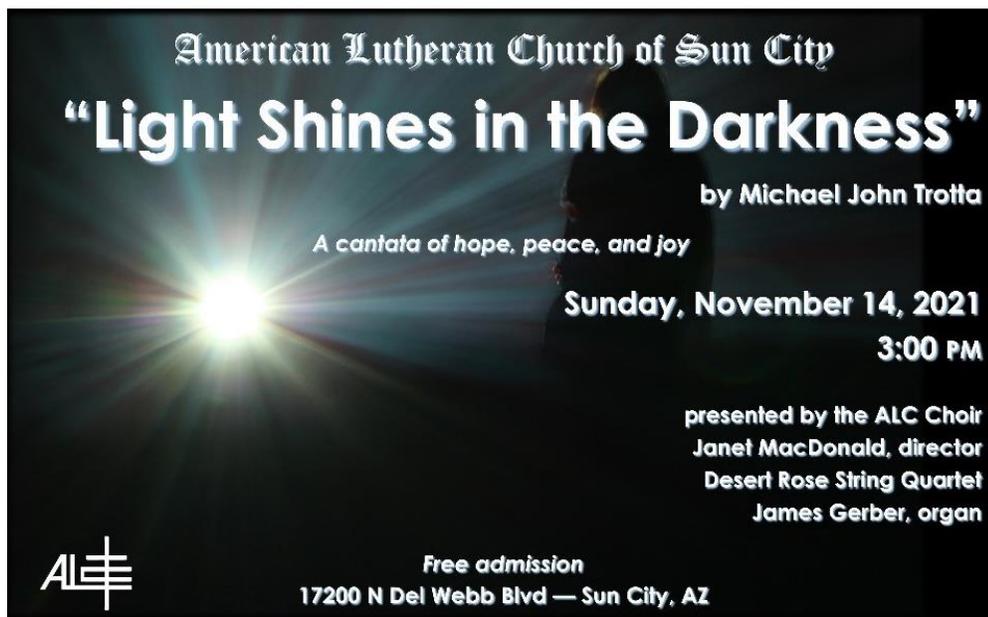
The work opens with “Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep”, a poem by Elizabeth Frye written from the perspective of the deceased, offering comfort to those loved ones still on earth. The second movement, “I Seek a Faith”, combines Isaiah 40:7 with words by Vachel Lindsay (b. 1879). He is considered a founder of modern singing poetry, as he referred to it, in which verses are meant to be sung or chanted. In the third movement, Psalm 23 is set tenderly using tone colors and harmonies that seem to glow. Another movement features the text “*Amor vincit omnia, et nos cedamus amori*”; that is, “Love conquers all things, so we too shall yield to love”. Virgil (b. 70 BC). The conclusion of the cantata is a

Gaelic Blessing, “Deep Peace”, by Fiona Macleod. Although drawn from a wide variety of texts including Isaiah, John, Revelation and Psalm 23, one common thread runs through the entire work – Love conquers all and death shall be no more for “God so loved the world, that he gave his begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life.” John 3:16.

Music is meant to be shared and can touch the soul providing healing, hope, comfort and joy. COVID protocols robbed us

of so many things we took for granted; this music is especially poignant as we can now sing together with an audience in attendance. It is a fitting, beautiful tribute to those we have loved and lost in the past year. Please invite friends and neighbors to enjoy this beautiful, uplifting music on Sunday, November 14th at 3:00 p.m. in the ALC Sanctuary. The choir and I hope to see you there.

Warmly,
Janet MacDonald,
ALC Choir Director



American Lutheran Church of Sun City
“Light Shines in the Darkness”
by Michael John Trotta
A cantata of hope, peace, and joy
Sunday, November 14, 2021
3:00 PM
presented by the ALC Choir
Janet MacDonald, director
Desert Rose String Quartet
James Gerber, organ
Free admission
17200 N Del Webb Blvd — Sun City, AZ

GET READY, SET, LET’S GO! BY TERRI POLK

I vow that I will never again say, “Oh, the last 18 months were awful, weren’t they?”. Instead, I am looking to the bright future we have at American Lutheran Church. More and more people are returning to our weekend services! Our choir is back. Our Bell Choir has returned! We had concerts with ProMusica and Dr. James Gerber, our Organist/Worship Coordinator. Coffee and cookies have returned to Fellowship Hall between Sunday services. We are talking Stephen Ministry Breakfast and Weekend and a new Stephen Ministry Training class will begin in January. Operation Christmas Child boxes are due back to Church on Nov. 6th & 7th and Women’s Bazaar is coming up on **November 20th**. By the time you read this, we will have had our first program and meal with WNA---Wednesday Night Alive!!! The upcoming programs for WNA and meals look wonderful. Soon we will be talking about “Sparked by the Spirit” Stewardship Year 2, and you will hear about “ALC: An Attitude of Gratitude...Thanks4Giving” celebrations during the month of January. **We have so much to be thankful for. Thanks again to all of our ALC staff, volunteers, and members; without you, we would not be able to say, “Get Ready, Set, Let’s Go!”.**