

## VERSE OF THE WEEK

"I can do all things through Christ  
because he gives me strength."  
Philippians 4:13

God knows our needs. We need to wait upon the Lord and learn to humbly pray and accept that we are given his grace. If that is all we are given, it is more than enough. We are to pray for his will, not our own, in God's time and not always when and how we want.



### **SCRIPTURES FOR SERVICE:**

Lesson: Philippians 2:1-13

Psalm: Psalm 25:1-9

The Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

# MIDWEEK MESSAGES

September 23, 2020

## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR LOWELL NELSON

### "GETTING REGISTERED"

I am thankful for all the prayers and preparation that went into our plans for reopening for public worship. Together, we are worshipping the Lord through online and in-person, fulfilling our mission to proclaim the love of Jesus Christ. Special thanks to our planning team, ushers, greeters, registration team, cleaning team, Altar Guild, staff members and, of course, to you dear members.

I wanted to help outline the registration process which is so new for us during these pandemic times. First, thank you for your patience as we focus on opening safely with appropriate administrative rigor. You can register in two ways: first, by going online on our website ([alcsuncity.org](http://alcsuncity.org)), or by calling the church office (623-974-2512). With our two services, one on Saturday at 4 pm and Sunday at 9:30 am, they both have the same deadline for making reservations- Fridays at Noon. The rationale for the cut-off is to prepare a check-in list for the registration team so we can attend to each person safely. Your cooperation in planning ahead is so helpful. Phone calls or online registrations after the deadline are not registered and may cause confusion to both your individual plans and for our records, so please keep the deadline in mind. I am thankful this is not a major issue but simply needs to be addressed so we can be "in one mind and spirit" as Paul's encouragement in Philippians stated.

I had recommended after the deadline that people could start signing up immediately for the following weekend, a week later, but that is a tad confusing (☹️), so we'll have registrations starting on Mondays at 9 am through Friday at noon. Said differently, signup Monday, 9 am- Friday 12 pm for the weekend. I appreciate the generosity of love and kindness shown by our members in this unprecedented process. Remember, this is simply our first step into returning to our foundation, our bedrock of worshipping together in joy and truth. As always, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Love, Pastor Lowell

## WELCOME ELIZABETH

Please meet our new receptionist, Elizabeth Borgman. We welcomed her on board this month and are very thankful for her. Elizabeth comes to us with over 30 years of church administrative/office experience. She has a passion for serving the body of Christ and assisting the leadership of a thriving congregation.

Elizabeth has been married to her husband, Terry, for 40 years and has lived in Arizona for 45 years. She loves animals and especially enjoys spending time with her horses and St. Bernards. In her spare time, Elizabeth likes to paint and write poetry or short stories.

Welcome Elizabeth! We are so glad you are here!!



## SO MANY BEAUTIFUL SONGS

Songs are all around us. I heard the song of gentle rain this morning...what refreshing music. I hear the song of peace, protection, and freedom when the jets fly overhead from Luke Air Force Base. I hear the song of happiness when family and friends get together and when I watch children at play. I hear the song of grief when a loss is experienced, either through death, joblessness, hunger, poverty, etc. I hear the quiet song of a smile or the boisterous song of good belly-laugh. I hear the songs of praise and uplift at American Lutheran Church when Dr. James Gerber is playing the organ and when people gather after many months of being separated during the pandemic. I hear the song of faith when we lift our voices in prayer and sing our hymns. I hear the song of encouragement when we listen to our wonderful Pastors and their sermons. What do all these songs have in common?



Lord God, You Are Our Song.  
Terri Polk, ALC Council President

## HOW TO REGISTER FOR ALC WORSHIP SERVICES

1. Call the church at 623-974-2512 or register online at [www.alcsuncity.org](http://www.alcsuncity.org) by NOON the FRIDAY prior to service. EVERY PERSON ATTENDING MUST BE REGISTERED AS THERE IS A LIMIT OF 50 PEOPLE.
2. On the Welcome page, click on the link listed below the service you want to attend.
3. You will be redirected to another page, Realm. Input your information: first and last name, email, and phone number.
4. Click Next.
5. On the page that loads, click on ADD A GUEST if there is anyone else that will go with you, OR each person can register separately. Please include the guest's email and phone number.
6. Click Next.
7. Ensure the information is correct on the screen; if so, click Next again.
8. Click Register and you are done. You will receive a confirmation email from Realm.

