

SIERRA EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
MONDAY MESSENGER  
Oct. 12, 2020

SOME FURTHER THOUGHTS

*“Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God’s wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It’s wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.” - Phil. 4:4-7, from The Message*

Reflecting more on the theme of “the peace that passes all understanding” from my sermon yesterday, I offer these thoughts: This is one of the greatest verses in all the Bible presenting one of the greatest blessings which we can receive from the greatest Gift ever given, Jesus Christ our Lord. As I’ve personally experienced, especially (but, honestly, not always) in times of stress, and as has been testified to me innumerable times in my life and ministry, that inner peace and sense of strong calmness even in the midst of conflict and strife IS real, IS available, and IS beyond logical explanation. It is also one of the most significant ways we can witness to a frightened and anxious world, when they see us being held in that peace ourselves and begin to imagine that they, too, could have that peace in Christ, if they’re open to it.

I pray that you and I can continue our spiritual disciplines of prayer and other practices which allow us to be more open channels to that Peace, or “sense of God’s wholeness,” for all to see and receive for themselves.

In Christ’s love,  
Pastor Mark Perry

IN PERSON WORSHIP INVITATION

It was an exciting blessing to worship together in person in the sanctuary yesterday with thirty-six of our SELC members and friends! Everything went smoothly and people expressed gratitude (some even with tears) at finally being able to be back in our worship space. It was definitely a different experience than pre-pandemic, e.g., we are learning how to worship more with our heart than with our voices in song. We also were aware of and grateful for others who were worshipping with us online.

If you attended worship in person or online and have any feedback to offer to help us improve the experience, please let us know your thoughts.

We invite those who feel comfortable doing so to join us for worship in the sanctuary in upcoming Sundays. Once again, we ask that you call or email the church office, 520-459-0444, or [admin@selcaz.org](mailto:admin@selcaz.org), to make a “reservation” for the upcoming Sunday. Be prepared to observe the recommended protocols, e.g., wearing face masks, and, if you have health issues, to consider whether it is in your best interest to stay home at this time.

Thanks again to our worship and COVID-19 Response Teams for helping us to gather as safely as possible and to enable us to have a positive experience yesterday!

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COFFEE FELLOWSHIP RESUMING OCT. 18<sup>TH</sup>

Join us for Zoom fellowship again on Sunday, Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30 am! Here’s the Zoom invitation:

<https://zoom.us/j/91444195533?pwd=UFc5M3BFTUs2OXVxV0NjMIJcWd3Zz09>

Meeting ID: 914 4419 5533

Passcode: 930563

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,91444195533#,,,,,0#,,930563# US (Houston)

## “HYBRID” WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

This coming Wednesday, Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>, 9-10 am, we’ll be welcoming those who aren’t able or comfortable using Zoom to join us in person in the Fellowship Hall for Bible Study, along with others who will also be joining us through Zoom. If you could please call the office to let us know if you plan to be there it would help in our preparations. We continue to study the upcoming Sunday’s lectionary readings. Intern Pastor Annela will be leading this week’s discussion. All are welcome to participate! If you wish to join on Zoom, here’s the invitation:

<https://zoom.us/j/97395588238?pwd=dTM3U0YyWVJrU1VtdkVxK2xobmFLZz09>

Meeting ID: 973 9558 8238      Passcode: 370866

One tap mobile +16699009128,,97395588238#,,,,,0#,,370866# US (San Jose)

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## CONFIRMATION LEARNING EVENTS RESTARTING NEXT WEEK

We’ll be starting up our Confirmation Learning Events again next week, Wednesday, Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>, 3:30-4:45 pm, in the Fellowship Hall (distanced, wearing masks). This is for our youth, 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade. If you’re interested, please contact Pastor Mark, [pastor@selcaz.org](mailto:pastor@selcaz.org), or call the church office.

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## G.I.F.T. REFORMATION EVENT - SUNDAY, OCT. 25<sup>TH</sup>

All ages, all generations, are invited to join us on Zoom for our next “Generations In Faith Together” event on Sunday, Oct. 25, 2020, 11:30-12:15 pm. We’ll be lifting up some of the “gifts” we receive as Lutheran Christians because of our heritage from Martin Luther. It promises to be a fun, meaningful, and creative time. Watch for more information and the Zoom invite to come!



Every Night In Every Home!

Our FAITH5 verse of the week is

**Philippians 4:6-7 - “Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”**

*(Post or keep this weekly scripture in a handy place and every morning or evening share the following as a couple, or with family members in the home or even with a dear friend over the phone.)*



**Share** your highs and lows of the day with one another.



**Read** the verse of the week and if time permits, the Bible story that pertains to the Scripture of the week.



**Talk** about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows of the day or how it’s speaking to you.



**Pray** for one another’s highs and lows and other prayer requests.



**Bless** one another. Make the sign of the cross on each other’s forehead or the palm of your hands and say something simple such as: “God bless you and keep you in His love and care!” Or feel free to make up your own blessing that incorporates a part of the FAITH5 verse of the week.

Be creative! Stay open to the Holy Spirit!

## SUNDAY LECTIONARY DAILY READINGS

The readings are chosen so that the days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon that Sunday’s readings. The days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the next Sunday readings.

### Monday

Psalm 34  
Exodus 19:7-20  
Jude 17-25

### Tuesday

Psalm 34  
Amos 9:5-15  
Philippians 3:13–4:1

### Wednesday

Psalm 34  
Song of Solomon 7:10–8:4  
John 6:25-35

### Thursday

Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]  
Judges 17:1-6  
3 John 9-12

### Friday

Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]  
Deuteronomy 17:14-20  
1 Peter 5:1-5

### Saturday

Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]  
Isaiah 14:3-11  
Matthew 14:1-12

### Sunday

Isaiah 45:1-7  
Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]  
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10  
Matthew 22:15-22