

MONDAY MESSENGER
SIERRA EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
MAY 10, 2021

A devotional thought from Linda Perry, Director of Faith Formation:

Isaiah 41:10 (NRSV)

Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

Fear, doubt, weakness, failure, fretting, or “futuring,” as our dear friend, Dr. Rodiger used to call it, are all things I can easily succumb to in any given moment or day. In fact, a more apt translation of the above verse for me personally is once again from The Message: “Don’t panic, I’m with you. There’s no need to fear for I’m your God. I’ll give you strength. I’ll help you. I’ll uphold you steady, keep a firm grip on you!” Wow! What assurance, power, strength, and love! God would do all of that for me?

Panic could once have been my middle name, especially in times of great difficulty and facing the unknown. I would fret about all that might transpire and could ask a million “what ifs.” Thankfully, my trust in Christ has grown and helped me to face the storms and trials in my life with more confidence and faith. However, in those moments when my weakness enters in and I find myself falling into the depths of fear about something, or what may come to be about situations that are beyond my control, I am once again reminded of this passage and my heart rests in these comforting words. I know that no matter the outcome, God will help relieve my fear, give me the strength I need and keep me in His firm and loving grip. And, as long as I am held in the steady and strong grip of our loving God, I may falter and fumble, but I’m less likely to go down. And, if by chance I do take a fall, Christ will be there to gently help me up to rise once again for another new day. I hope this all can be true for you, too. Thanks be to God!

Rich Mount Funeral Service
Tuesday, May 18, 2021 - 11:00 am

A funeral service with committal/inurnment immediately following in the SELC Columbarium will take place May 18th, 11 am. If you wish to attend, please call the church office no later than Thursday, May 13th by 4:00 pm. COVID-19 protocols will be observed at the service. It will also be livestreamed on our website, www.selcaz.org.

NO Wednesday Morning Bible Study this week - Wednesday, 5/12

Pastor Perry will be participating in a virtual team building retreat with the new 2021-22 Intern Pastor, Diana Washington, and other interns and supervisors in the region. Watch for more information to come about Diana!

Looking Ahead - Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 9:00 am

During our Worship Service we will celebrate Confirmation Sunday / Affirmation of Baptisms for Jade Anthony, Cris Clark, Lilliana Dicks, and Dakota Gaddy. A reception with light refreshments will follow the service on the patio. Don’t forget to R.S.V.P for the service.

FAITH

Every Night In Every Home!

Our FAITH5 verse of the week is
John 15:12-13

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.

(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 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 part of the FAITH5 verse.

Be creative! Stay open to the Holy Spirit!

SUNDAY LECTIONARY DAILY READINGS
The readings are chosen so that the days flowing out from Sunday (Mon. - Wed.) reflect upon that Sunday’s readings. The days leading up to Sunday (Thur. - Sat.) prepare for next Sunday readings.

Monday

Psalm 150
Jeremiah 30:1-11a
1 John 3:10-16

Tuesday

Psalm 150
Hosea 5:15–6:6
2 John 1-6

Wednesday

Psalm 150
Proverbs 9:1-6
Mark 16:9-18

Thursday

Psalm 23
Genesis 30:25-43
Acts 3:17-26

Friday

Psalm 23
Genesis 46:28–47:6
Acts 4:1-4

Saturday

Psalm 23
Genesis 48:8-19
Mark 6:30-34

Sunday

Acts 4:5-12
Psalm 23
1 John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18