



Sermon Series: “What Is Truth?”

Part 1: Introduction

AUGUST 25, 2019
8:00 AM WORSHIP

SIERRA EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
101 North Lenzner Ave., Sierra Vista, AZ 85635
(520) 459-0444 - www.selcaz.org

Our Mission Statement:

“With faith in God’s grace, we share Christ’s love with all,
so that lives are transformed by the Holy Spirit.”

Mark Perry, Pastor
Paul Benz, Intern Pastor
Linda Perry, Director of Faith Formation
Larry Rewis, SELC Council President
Cindy Allen, Administrative Assistant
Ministers: The People of SELC

**You Are Invited again to Sunday Worship Services
Next Week at 8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.**

Nursery for children Birth - 4 yrs is available at both worship services. Parents are also welcome to use the Comfort Room as a private area to take your infant or young children if you would like. Located just off the Lobby.

WELCOME TO SELC - Please sign your name in the red fellowship pad from the pew rack in front of you. All are welcome at the communion table, regardless of denominational background or life circumstance. To learn more about what it means to be a devoted Christ-follower, and how Baptism is an essential entrance rite into that life of discipleship and service, please talk to the pastor or intern pastor. White grape juice is available as well as gluten-free wafers. Please indicate your preferences to the server.

PRAYER REQUESTS for the month of AUGUST can be submitted online at www.selcaz.org or to Sunny Fichtl at sunnyf@cox.net.

PLEASE PRAY for Ashley Hankerson, Pastor Tom Dunham, Jen, Chris Spahr, family of Kaylie (daughter of Scott Schultz), Jake, Ashley Ricks, baby Lily and the Bills family, and for the friends of Doris Hayutin. Please continue to pray for Anne Peterson, Gary Graham, Paul Gregory, Sully Mix, the family of Dotti Stotts, Bruce Morris, Johnnie Rae Latham, Juergen and his family, for Phil's family, for the residents of Southern California, Helen Perdiue, Lynn's family, Jenna (Perry) Knauss, Tony Toto, Jan and Don Huthoefer, Bob Reiner, Grady Taylor, Phil, Sue Mount, Rob, George Abraham, Jane Behsman, Dolly Bessler, Jan Beverlin, Dee Brenner, Clayton, Kriss Larsen, Helen Lecomte, Mahkyla, Carol Moses, the Nowaks, Shawn Nowrey, Pete and Dee Pederson, Caroline Pentecost, Jerry Regan, Roger and Dee Rowley, Virginia Studer, Pam Williams and military personnel everywhere.

Special Music “So Will I (100 Billion Times)” (Houston, Hastings, Fatkin)
Presented by Partners In Parise

Sermon “What Is Truth?” Pastor Mark Perry

Moment of Silent Reflection

*Hymn of the Day “You Are the Way” ELW #758

*Apostles’ Creed

*Prayers of the People *(to the conclusion, “Lord, in your mercy,”
please respond, “hear our prayer.”)*

*Sharing of the Peace

L: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

(Please share a sign of peace with one another)

MEAL

Offering

Offering Music “Jesus Led Me All the Way” (Peterson, arr. DeCou)
Billie Hayes, Piano

*Offering Prayer ELW pg. 144

*Great Thanksgiving

*Dialogue ELW pg. 144

*Preface

*Holy, Holy, Holy ELW pg. 144

*Words of Institution

***Lord's Prayer** ELW pg. 145

Invitation to Communion

Communion Song **"Lamb of God"** ELW pg. 146

Hymns during Communion
 "Here Is Bread" ELW #483
 "What A Friend We Have in Jesus" ELW #742

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

Announcements

***Blessing**

***Sending Hymn** **"On Our Way Rejoicing!"** ELW #537

***Dismissal**

(Pause for Chimes)

Postlude **"Voluntary on Sending Hymn"** (arr. B. Hayes)

Scripture Readings for Next Sunday

Proverbs 25:6-7

Psalm 112

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Faith 5 Verse for this week Isaiah 58:10:

“...if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.”

SERVING TODAY

Altar Guild - Ruth Britton,
Sylvia Diamond, Jan Bowie

Acolyte

8:00 a.m. - Carl McCourt

10:45 a.m. - Cris Clark

Deacons/Communion Assistants

8:00 a.m. - Deacon Jane Strain

10:45 a.m. - Deacon Carrisa

Bratlien

Greeters

8:00 a.m. - Leslie McCourt, Jean
Hall

10:45 a.m.- Joanne March, Rhea
Scott

Lectors

8:00 a.m. - Jill Osterman

10:45 a.m. - Gary Peterson

Music Director - Jess Barrera

Organist & Pianist

Billie Hayes, Deb Koltveit

Partners in Praise - Betty Burford,
Victoria Kiser, Linda Perry,

AV Technicians - Bill Silvis, Larry
Rewis, CJ Abraham, Fred March,
Dave Dechant

Ushers for Today

8:00 a.m. - *Jim Clevon, Virginia
Clevon, Glen Sanner, Wilma Bell,
Lynn Light, Diana Galecke

10:45 a.m. - *Rich Mount, Gary
Graham, Anna Bratlien

PRAYERS FOR HEALING OFFERED TODAY immediately following each service. Please come to the altar rail for laying on of hands and prayers.

TODAY! WELCOME ICE CREAM SOCIAL FOR INTERN PASTOR PAUL BENZ - AT 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please come and give Paul, his wife Monica and daughter Joy a warm SELC welcome. We'll let you have a chance to ask him questions and he will get the same opportunity. The Internship Committee provides ice cream and some toppings. You are invited to bring additional toppings or ice cream if you would like. Contact Barbara Williams at 459-2759 for more information.

CHOIR REHEARSALS BEGIN ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 29th at 7pm. (*Note day change.*) Been in choir already? Thinking you'd like to come sing with us? Come and check us out, we are looking forward to a great year ahead. We meet in the Sanctuary. If you have any questions, please email Jess Barrera at jbarrera2277@pointloma.edu, or call the church office at 520-459-0444.

HYMN SING SUNDAY - September 8 with ONE Worship Service at 9:00 am - Mark your calendars and join us for a wonderful worship service of song. Please Note: There will be NO Faith Formation Classes this week. Classes will resume on Sept. 15th! (Please suggest hymns to sing if you would like.)

SELC CHURCH POTLUCK PICNIC - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th starting at 12 Noon at Len Roberts Park, 101 E. Theater Dr. Join us for a great day of fun and fellowship! Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish to share. Lemonade, iced tea and water will be provided. There will be ice cream too! We will have use of the whole park for the picnic and the water feature (don't forget to bring towel and dry clothes.) There will be games such as corn hole, kick ball and water balloon toss with prizes for the winners. For more information contact Deanna Sanner 803-0576 or Sandy Urlie-Hall 895-8376. **Don't forget to bring your lawn chair.**

JOINT YOUTH SERVICE PROJECT! KRAZY KRITTERS/KIDS HELPING KIDS - SEPTEMBER 14 - All Jr. & Sr. High Youth are to meet at in the church parking lot at 8:00 a.m. to carpool over with youth from SVUMC, St. Stephen's Episcopal & United Church of Christ to help out at the Krazy Kritters Goat Sanctuary. We will work until 11:30 a.m. then come back to the Fellowship Hall for pizza, salad and watermelon and to share about our experience, then we will head to Pueblo Del Sol for fun time in the pool together! If you have questions or need more information, contact Linda Perry at dff@selcaz.org and be sure to sign up with her so we can arrange transportation! This will be a very special and unique service project and a great way to get to know other youth in our community!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY UPDATE! A Very Special Thank You to Virginia Wickizer. Virginia has long led the Prayer Shawl Ministry, but after many years of faithful service she has decided that it is time to pass on the torch. Pat Bogan has volunteered head this loving ministry, but she needs your help. If you make prayer shawls, want to make them or if you have ideas or information to make an easier transition, please contact Pat at 458-1363 or email her at pabogan@gmail.com. The group can also use any yarn suitable for the shawls.

VIA de CRISTO 2019 - October 10th thru October 13th. Participating in this Renewing and Discipleship Ministry Retreat is most certainly “An invitation to receive a wonderful gift from God.” Any person seeking to be strengthened in their relationship with Christ and their witness to others is urged to consider attending. This weekend is open to married couples and single men and women. For more information or to obtain registration forms please contact Jim Clevon, SELC parish representative at 520-678-0414 or eaglelope@cox.net, Pastor Mark Perry, or Linda Perry, Dir. of Faith Formation. Brochures and application packages are available in the Narthex and the church office. **All application packages should be submitted by August 31, 2019 to the church office or to Jim Clevon.**

CONTINUOUS COMMUNION AT 8 AM - Just a friendly “heads up,” that, for three Sundays starting 9/1/19, our Worship and Music committee decided we would experiment with a “continuous communion” practice at the 8 am worship service. That means instead of receiving a spoken blessing after each side of the altar rail has received communion before going back to the pews, we will have ONE blessing for everyone at the conclusion of communion. After you have received the bread and wine or a blessing you simply leave the altar rail to return to your seat when you feel ready to do so. We are One Body of Christ and communion is a beautiful way of showing that. This is one way to experience that reality. We’ll evaluate this practice in three weeks. Your comments are welcomed at that time.

Flowers Provided by

Jack and Marilyn Hewitt in celebration of their 58th wedding anniversary.

Oil for The Eternal Light Provided by

Don and Barb Williams in loving memory of Ciaran.

TAKING FAITH HOME
ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Honor God by taking delight in the Sabbath.

HYMN OF THE WEEK: *O Day of Rest and Gladness*

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 13:10-17	Jesus heals on the Sabbath
Monday	Isaiah 58:9b-14	Delight in the Sabbath
Tuesday	Hebrews 12:18-29	A kingdom that can't be shaken
Wednesday	Deuteronomy 5:12-15	Remember you were slaves
Thursday	Acts 20:7-12	Breaking bread on Sunday
Friday	Exodus 20:8-11	Remember the Sabbath day
Saturday	Psalms 103:1-8	Praise for God's benefits
Sunday	Luke 14:1, 7-14	Humility and hospitality

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath, for pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs; then you shall take delight in the Lord. Isaiah 58:13-14a (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week: God of the Sabbath, give us delight in your presence and heal us of all that separates us from you and from one another. For Christ's sake, amen.

Mealtime Prayer: Lord God, who gives us daily bread, our thanks to you we raise. Be present at our table here and fill our hearts with praise. Amen.

A Blessing to Give: May the Lord forgive you all your sins and heal you of all your ills. (Psalm 103:3)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- How do you spend the day when you take a day of rest (sabbath)?
- How does what you do in life honor God and honor your neighbor?
- Why is it hard to focus on God and neighbor instead of pursuing our own interests?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Isaiah 58:9b-14.

At the heart of this text is honoring God by taking delight in the Sabbath. The word *sabbath* in Hebrew simply means “to stop.” To stop, to rest from work is a way to honor God and your neighbor. The Sabbath protects community as it protects the vulnerable, including children, slaves, and animals. In Luke 13, Jesus understands the Sabbath as protecting the needs of a woman so she may stand upright in her community. When we refrain from “getting ahead” seven days a week, we can care for the hungry, the afflicted, and won’t need to speak evil of one another (vv. 9b-10). Then, the people of God will “get ahead” and have real needs satisfied, real bodies strengthened, and real thirst quenched (v. 11). In other words, by giving honor to God and justice to others, we will truly make progress in life by restoring relationships, not bank accounts or egos. At the end of your days, will you regret not working more? How is the Sabbath a delight for you?

Pray: Dear Lord, it is not easy to stop to honor you and care for others. Give me delight in your presence that I may honor the Sabbath as I desire to honor you. For the sake of Jesus, the Lord of the Sabbath, amen.

SERVICE

The Lord is abounding in steadfast love (Psalm 103:8b). This Psalm is one that gives praise for all God has done for us. God forgives, heals, rescues, and redeems us. Is there someone you know who needs to hear about God’s redeeming love? What can you do for them or say to them to show God’s love?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Sabbath is a time of rest. A time when you take a break and do not work. Make time each day this week to “take delight in the Lord” by observing a five-minute mini-sabbath. Set all electronic devices to the side, turn off the TV, and sit down in a comfortable position. Take a few deep breaths, close your eyes, and rest. After your mini-sabbath, thank God for this rest that gives health to your body, mind, and soul.

CALENDAR 8/25/19 - 9/1/19

SUN 8/25	8:00 & 10:45 AM	Worship Services / Installation of Intern Pastor Paul Benz
	9:30 AM	Faith Formation for ALL Ages
	6:30 PM	
MON 8/26		
TUE 8/27	7:45 AM	Exercise Group
	7:00 PM	Fellowship Hall Reserved
WED 8/28	9:00 AM	Bible Study - Music Room
THUR 8/29	7:45 AM	Exercise Group
	12:30 PM	LIFT - Sr. High Youth Room
	2:30 PM	Confirmation - Jr. High Youth Room
	4:30 PM	Partner's in Praise Rehearsal
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
	7:00 PM	Plus Square Dancers
FRI 8/30	6:00 PM	Square Dancing - Fellowship Hall
SAT 8/31	9:00 AM	Shepherd's Fold Training - Fellowship Hall
SUN 9/1	8:00 & 10:45 AM	Worship Services / In-Home Communion
	9:30 AM	Faith Formation for ALL Ages
MON 9/2		Office Closed in Observance of Labor Day

Food Donations for Next Sunday Will Go to St. Vincent de Paul.