

**September 6, 2020
10:00 AM**

SEASON OF CREATION



“The Goodness of Creation”

**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
Annela Rova, Intern Pastor
Linda Perry, Director of Faith Formation
Larry Rewis, SELC Council President
Cindy Allen, Administrative Assistant
Ministers: The People of SELC

SELC SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE - 10:00 AM
WATCH AND WORSHIP WITH US LIVE-STREAMED ONLINE

Celebrated each week, including a sermon and communion with those present and at home. Your Pastor, Intern Pastor, musicians, and AV tech will gather to celebrate worship online with you from the sanctuary.

Go to our website, www.selcaz.org, scroll down to the bottom of the page, look for the “Watch Services” ‘button,’ click on it, then click on the worship service to the right that you want to watch. These will remain available to watch for 90 days. If you can’t watch it online, call the office to request a DVD, if desired.

PRAYER REQUESTS for the month of **September** can be submitted online at www.selcaz.org or to Cindy Wiste at cindywiste@gmail.com

Please pray for the family of Connie Brandes, Monty’s mother, who died, 9/1/20; a prayer of thanks for healing help for Karen Cottrell, Faye Toto, Dee Brenner and Rich Mount. **Please continue to pray** for Jan Huthoefer, Linda Perry; the family and friends of Sam Gamutambuli; Ed Strauss Sr, Bob Hollis, Doris Rasmussen; Mark and family (Jan Huthoefer’s brother); the family of Karen Ruth Peer (Michele Webb’s stepmother); Sharon Keene; Charles Wickizer and family; Karen Bickers; the family and friends of John (friend of CJ Abraham); Verona Webb, Carmelo (Melissa Martinez’s father); Lee Grabow; Bob Strain; the family of Tegisti; Gord Neevel, Dora Lietz, family of Don Lawrence; family of Carole Orndorff; Elmer Lease and family; Ty Grube, Mary Alexander; John and Mary Alexander (Mary Alexander’s son and wife); Jim and Pam Andrew; John Cannon, Clayton, Norm Grahn, Samantha Howard, Don Huthoefer, Jake, Makayla Margulies, Michael (Lisa Mitchell’s nephew); Anne Nowak, Caroline Pentecost; Jerry Regan, Bob Reiner; Larry Rewis, Dee Rowley; Dee Stickley, John Williams; The Navajo Evangelical Mission at Rock Point; all people who are in lockdown in facilities and affected by the virus; military personnel everywhere.

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
ELW Holy Communion Setting Three
(= Please stand as you are able)*

GATHERING

Chime

Prelude "Music to Praise Our Father's World" (Billie Hayes, Piano)

(You may wish to light a candle or two during this time in your home)

Welcome

***Confession and Forgiveness**

***Gathering Hymn** "Morning Has Broken" **ELW #556**

Greeting

***Prayer of the Day**

WORD

First Reading: Genesis 1:27-31 Pew Bible pg. 1

Psalm 104:10-15 *(Read responsively)*

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 4:1-5 Pew Bible pg. 964

***Gospel Acclamation** **ELW #510, vs. 2 only**
"Word of God, Come Down on Earth"

***Gospel: John 2:1-11** Pew Bible pg. 863; SPARK Bible pg.410

Sermon "The Goodness of Creation" **Pastor Mark Perry**

Moment of Silent Reflection

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

Announcements

Blessing

*Sending Hymn “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” ELW #836

*Dismissal

(Pause for Chimes)

Postlude “Ode to Joy” (Ludwig van Beethoven)

Oil for The Eternal Light Provided by Faye Toto in memory of Tony.

Scripture Readings for Next Sunday

Psalm 19:1-4

Romans 1:19-21

Matthew 6:26-33

SEASON OF CREATION

From September 1st through October 4th, which is the Commemoration of St. Francis of Assisi, the ecumenical community around the world celebrates a special “Season of Creation.” This is a unique time of focusing on the wonder and goodness of God’s grace revealed and experienced in and through our natural world as well as God’s call to cherish and protect that great gift. The 2020 theme is ‘Jubilee for the Earth,’ prompted by the Old Testament teachings about providing a “Sabbath” and a 50-year “Jubilee Sabbath” for the land and people, found in Leviticus 25:1-12. Our Sundays during September this year will have an emphasis on those themes.

In addition to Sundays’ teachings, a 3-session Zoom and Livestream series on Climate Change, presented by University of Arizona climatologists and other experts/advocates will start the week of September 14th. Watch for more information and details to come!

Join with us as we celebrate and honor this and all “Seasons of Creation!”

CONNECT WITH INTERN PASTOR ANNELA

The invitation continues to be offered to get acquainted with our new Intern Pastor, Annela Rova. As was described in last week’s *Monday Messenger*, there are two options moving forward over the next couple of months:

Option 1) Small ZOOM groups of 6-8 folks one or twice per week, either Wednesday afternoon and/or early evening, or Friday afternoons. Annela will schedule those who email her first to fill the slots (first come first serve type of arrangement). The first was scheduled last Wednesday, and Friday at 3:00 p.m. She can put you in for this week on the same days and times Wednesday, Sept. 2, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. and Friday, Sept. 4, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. and so forth into the following week. Please let her know if either of these dates or times work for you via email and I will send the ZOOM information

Option 2) Is to email her personally at intern@selcaz.org to coordinate a one-on-one phone call that works with both of your schedules. You can also call the church office, 459-0444, to leave a message.

You’re encouraged in these ways to get to know her and our Internship Mentoring Ministry better in the days and weeks ahead!

**The Church Office will be Closed Monday, September 7th
in observance of Labor Day.**

PATH TO RESUMING IN-PERSON WORSHIP

Your SELC COVID-19 Response Team met this past Tuesday to discuss holding in-person worship. With cases of COVID-19 now steadily decreasing, and facilities like gyms, bars and hospitals allowed to lift some restrictions, it was decided that we can start the process of inviting worshipers back into the sanctuary. We are proceeding with much caution and many considerations. A first step is to ask you to fill out a survey to gauge willingness among members and friends about returning to sanctuary worship with a number of protocols and procedures in place. You will receive instructions via email or postal mail about how to participate. In it you will see a list of all the precautions that will be in place to be as safe as we possibly can. These include: limited reserved seating, requiring a face mask, physical distancing, taking temperatures upon entering, no congregational singing, and other protocols. Once we receive results of this survey from as many members and friends as possible, and we make sure all is in place for worship, we will publicize a date hopefully in the near future when worshipers will be invited back into our worship space. We will be continuing to livestream services and copying DVDs for homebound. We are also open to small church groups (10 maximum) meeting in person, masked and physically distanced. Call the church office if interested in gathering on campus.

All of this, of course, also depends upon continued downward trends in infection cases and continued availability of hospital and other medical care. Please note, as hard as we are working to keep our church campus virus free, remember that to come here is not without risk, as we are not a medically sterile facility. Each of us can do our best to protect ourselves and others, including continuing to follow health guidelines such as frequent hand washing, staying home when ill, getting tested when exposed, and always wearing masks in public meeting places. We strongly discourage any health fragile folks from attending in-person worship, as well as those who have been traveling to at-risk areas or who care for those who are at-risk. This is all offered out of Christly neighbor love and care for everyone's health and well-being.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Church Congregation President, Larry Rewis, at 520-249-2973, or ljrewis@gmail.com, or Pastor Perry, 520-226-6383, or pastor@selcaz.org, or anyone else on the COVID-19 Response Team.

Thank you for your patience through all this and for your prayers of discernment, wisdom and health for all.

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE U.S. WILDFIRES

Wildfires have erupted across California. Tens of thousands of people are under evacuation orders and more than 1 million acres have burned. Some evacuees face the difficult decision of whether to stay in a shelter during the COVID-19 pandemic. Lutheran Disaster Response is engaging with Lutheran Social Services of Southern California and Lutheran Social Services of Northern California, along with the three California synods (Sierra Pacific, Southwest California, and Pacifica), to assess the situation and determine the best ways to respond. We expect immediate needs to include food and other life necessities, as well as emotional and spiritual care for those who have been traumatized.

Give through SELC noting “U.S. wildfires” on memo line or online at <https://community.elca.org>

FAITH5

Every Night In Every Home!

Our FAITH5 verse of the week is Genesis 1:29: “³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day”

(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

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



READ

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



TALK

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



PRAY

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



BLESS

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.