

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

918 S Litchfield Road
Goodyear Arizona 85338
(623) 932-2394

Worship Bulletin

Access on our YouTube channel

In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

Genesis 50:15-21

Joseph reconciles with his brothers

Psalms 103:[1-7] 8-13

Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy. (Ps. 103:8)

Romans 14:1-12

Accepting diversity in the community of faith

Matthew 18:21-35

A parable of forgiveness in the community of faith

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Jonah 3:10—4:11 ~ Psalm 145:1-8 ~ Philippians 1:21-30 ~ Matthew 20:1-16

September 13, 2026 **16th Sunday after Pentecost**

New Perspective

Being a disciple requires an expansive perspective on forgiveness. Today our perspective is broadened by the good news that God's forgiveness is not based on our idea of fairness, but rather on abundant, unimaginable grace. God "[has] not dealt with us according to our sins, nor repaid us according to our iniquities" (Ps. 103:10). The king forgives our entire debt, no matter how enormous it is (Matt. 18:23-27). We also are challenged to stretch our perspective and forgive each other. With Peter, we learn to stop keeping score (Matt. 18:21-22).

It's not an easy thing to do. Again and again we fall back on limited human understandings of what is "fair." Looking at the story of Joseph and his brothers, it's easy for us to say that his brothers really didn't deserve forgiveness. Even their plea for forgiveness is dishonest and manipulative—have they really repented (Gen. 50:15-17)? Joseph takes the wider view and realizes that it isn't his brothers' intentions that matter, but God's. God's forgiveness is much greater than what is fair, what we deserve.

So what does this new, broadened perspective look like in the lives of Christians and congregations? Paul provides a pragmatic glimpse: "Those who eat must not

despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them" (Rom. 14:3). If all are truly welcomed by God, we are called to share the good news of that welcome in all we say and do. duals; all the commandments are fulfilled in this call to neighbor-love (Rom. 13:9).

Worship Team

Pastor: Jeff Hackler

Music: Miloy Cañete

Assisting Minister:

Patsy Blankenship

Greeters:

13 - Bob & Sue Addy, Judy Turnen

20,27 - Carol Moonan, Sandy Gabel,
Judy Turnen

Readers:

13 - Cole Stafford

20 - Julie Paisley

27 - Beth Blankenship

Altar Guild:

Mary Ellen Crane & Julie Paisley

Communion Assistants:

Pat Bolka & Tom Reynolds

Ushers:

Gayle Denny & Jim Hill

Faith Hanley & Emma

Sound/Tech:

Magan Ratafsky & Ruben Salgado

Banners:

Judy Wandler/Karen Olson

Flowers:

Kathie Townsend

Special Food Pantry needs

Boxes (small-med sized), brown paper bags, **cereal**, canned meat

Outreach Boutique needs

Have you cleaned out your linen closets and shoe closets recently? Ardyce is requesting **bathroom towels and men's and women's shoes** for our outreach boutique. Bring donations to church on Sunday or drop off on Monday or Tuesday mornings.



Singles Mingle

The next Singles Mingle get together will be **Friday, September 11th**, at 1pm for lunch at Potbelly
10265 W McDowell Rd
Avondale, AZ 85392

Contact Julie Paisley for more information.



Blessing of the Quilts

This Sunday, the quilts made in the past year by the Quilters For Others group will be displayed and blessed during the service **Sunday, September 13**. These quilts will soon be delivered to the New Life Center and other charities we support. The Quilters also make craft items that will be available for sale at

the Fall Festival on October 10, and the Sunday Service on October 11. Proceeds from these sales are used to purchase batting to make the quilts.

The Quilters thank you for your support and welcome anyone interested to participate in the group. Sewing skills are not necessary!

Recycle Sunday update

Thank you to everyone who has been donating plastic water bottles and aluminum cans monthly. Jim Hill reports that our year-to-date income from recycling is **\$431.91**. These funds are used to offset facilities maintenance expenses on our campus.



Are you registered to vote?

Check out LAMA's voter information [here](#) and make sure that you are prepared for this election season.

Fall Fest & Quilter's Boutique

Mark you calendar and plan to attend CELC's Fall Fest on **Saturday, Oct. 10**, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. Come and enjoy German food, beer and wine, desserts and a root beer float stand. Shop for treasures at the Quilter's Boutique.

Tickets will go on sale soon. Adults - \$10 and Children - \$5

A graphic with a large cross on the left and a landscape with a cross on a hill on the right. The text reads: "REGISTER NOW", "Grand Canyon Growing In Faith Program Presents:", "Guest Speaker: Shelley Bryan Wee, Bishop of the Northwest Washington Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America", "A DIFFERENT WAY: JESUS AND THE CALL BEYOND CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM - Hope, Courage and Community for such a time as this", "November 14, 2026", "9:30 AM - 3:00 PM", "American Lutheran Church Sun City, Arizona", "In-person or virtual", "Snacks and Lunch will be served.", "TO REGISTER: www.diakonia.education > Menu > Classes/Events > Upcoming Events > Click the Sign Up Button.", "FAITH | JUSTICE | LOVE | NEIGHBOR".

REGISTER NOW

Grand Canyon Growing In Faith Program Presents:

Guest Speaker: Shelley Bryan Wee, Bishop of the Northwest Washington Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

A DIFFERENT WAY: JESUS AND THE CALL BEYOND CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM - Hope, Courage and Community for such a time as this

November 14, 2026
9:30 AM - 3:00 PM
American Lutheran Church
Sun City, Arizona
In-person or virtual
Snacks and Lunch will be served.

\$25 for both online and in person. For administrative costs.

TO REGISTER:
www.diakonia.education > Menu > Classes/Events > Upcoming Events > Click the Sign Up Button.

FAITH | JUSTICE | LOVE | NEIGHBOR

What does it mean to be a Christian in America today? How can Christians love their country while remembering that our ultimate allegiance is to Christ? And how do we engage faithfully with Christian Nationalism without surrendering either our faith or our neighbor?

The **Grand Canyon Growing in Faith Program**, a Mission and Ministry Partner of the Grand Canyon Synod, invites rostered ministers, lay leaders and others across the synod to explore these questions at **"A Different Way: Jesus and the Call Beyond Christian Nationalism — Hope, Courage and Community for Such a Time as This."** [View a PDF of event info here.](#)

The one-day symposium will be held **Saturday, Nov. 14, 2026, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Arizona time** at **American Lutheran Church in Sun City, Arizona**, with both **in-person and virtual participation** available. The cost is **\$25 per person** for either format. Lunch and snacks will be provided for those attending in person.

We remember in our prayers... (see email version)

Bishops: Deborah K. Hutterer, (Grand Canyon Synod), Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry (ELCA churchwide)

Cactus Conference Churches: Lord of Life - Sun City; Spirit of Grace - Surprise

CELC Campus Churches: Casa del Rey, Hope Alive, Inglesia Cristiana Valle de Beraca, Vida Nueva

Service Men/Women: (see email version)

Submit or update prayer requests by emailing: office@Christgoodyear.org, **calling the church office:** **623-932-2394**, or complete an [online prayer request form](#).

Upcoming Events

Sept 11 - Singles Mingle lunch @ Potbelly
Sept 13 - Quilt Blessing
Sept 13 - CELC Book Exchange
Sept 20 - Blood Pressure Screenings
Sept 20 - CELC Church Council
Oct 10 - CELC Fall Fest/Quilt Boutique
Nov 14 - Symposium @ American Lutheran Church
Dec 3 - Life Line Screening

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Fry's Community [Rewards](#): CELC #MW462

CELC [Calendar](#)

[CELC Website](#)

<https://www.christevangelical.org/staff-and-leadership>

Council Meeting Minutes Click on link above

Click on the highlighted word and it will take you to the link

Pastor: Jeff Hackler

pastorjeff@christgoodyear.org

(314)378-1330

Music: Miloy Cañete

Council President: Carol Moonan

CELC Office Phone: (623) 932-2394

Please email office for pastoral care, appointments or special requests at office@christgoodyear.org

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