

THE DESERT STREAM



—Isaiah 35.6

November, 2024

Redeemer Lutheran Church

redeemerscottsdale.org

7670 E. Jomax Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85262

Tel.: 480-585-7002

Sunday Worship... 9a

Sunday School... 10:30

Holy Communion

November 3, 17.

Virtual Bible Study

Thursdays, 7 PM, Skype
(No Class 11/28)

Pray for the Nation!

Elders and Council
Meeting

November 19, 6:30p at
Muth's residence

Ladies' Guild

Sunday, November 10th
between worship and
Bible Class Hour.

All Ladies Welcome!

Meditations & News
from around the ELS
available in the Narthex.

Also available to you,
Please contact Pastor

- Private Confession
- Christianity 101
- Jr. Confirmation

The Congregation
Prays: A Guide to
Daily Devotions
In Sunday's Bulletin!

Sacramental Ethics

God knows, putting something on your stomach can really perk you up. When you are run down or hungry, a taste coming to you from the outside brings you new energy. It brightens your eyes and lightens your steps.

Spiritually speaking, God knows, it's no different. In Sunday Bible class lately we set some time aside to talk about the Lord's Supper, to begin to frame a kind of *Sacramental Ethic*.

In November, the month of feasting and national Thanksgiving, (and also voting!) it fits well to talk about this Meal also: it's the Feast of the foretaste of Heaven. Some Christians call it the *Eucharist*. It means *Thank God!* (Exactly the words I like to use to greet you all on Sunday morning!)

But if we're going to talk about a *Sacramental Ethic*, what we are talking about is really all about receiving. It's all about what Christ is doing, not about us—though it is *for* us. It begins with Jesus and His Words. There are three Bible verses I'd like to use to talk about this: **Mt. 26.26**, **Heb. 12:2**, and **1 Cor. 11:33**.

1. Take and Eat, Take and Drink. This is His command. He invites us to come and receive from Him, His body and blood, for the forgiveness of sins.

This informs and directs all we do. And for all that the Supper is, and what it's for, the words that follow inform your faith and awaken your hunger for it—so that this bread and this cup will cheer your heart, brighten your eyes and lighten your steps!

2. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus: That is, not on ourselves, and not on one another. In Bible class we noted: those who commune declare Christ's death! Those who *don't* happen to commune on a given Sunday aren't saying anything by it. They get hear the others! Therefore, do not judge one another. And do not worry that you are being judged by anyone else. Let each one be free to follow his or her own piety. In Communion, we are not doing the judging, but being judged by our Lord. It is *His government* over us, for *the forgiveness of sins*.

After another weary and sin-filled week, it is refreshing and delicious.

3. Wait for one another. We take heart because of the Lord's kindness to us. We learn gentle patience and joy with the angels over even one sinner who repents, turns to God, and feasts with Him. Thank God!

God bless you! I'll see you Sunday.
With Love, Pastor.

Beginning in Advent:

- *The Old Testament
In Sermons*
- *St. Matthew's Gospel
In Bible Class*

Eve of Thanksgiving Service
Wednesday, October 27th
4PM at Redeemer

12/1—Sanctuary Decorations
for Christmas