

# THE DESERT STREAM



—Isaiah 35.6

March, 2025

## Redeemer Lutheran Church

*redeemerscottsdale.org*  
7670 E. Jomax Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85262  
Tel.: 480-585-7002

**Sunday Worship...** 9a  
**Sunday School...** 10:30

**Online Bible Study**  
Tuesdays at 5 PM on  
Skype

**Moms in Prayer meets  
at the Richards'**  
Tuesdays at 6 PM

**\*Cigars & Scotch at  
Redeemer:** March 8th

**Elders & Council**  
Tues., 3/11 at 6:30 PM  
at Muths.

**Book Club: Hammer  
of God I – at Richards'**  
Wed. 3/19 at 6 PM

**Ladies' Guild-Sunday,**  
March 23rd

**\*Mens & Womens  
Groups:** March 24.  
\*Times TBD

Please Contact Pastor—

- **Private Confession**
  - **Christianity 101**
  - **Jr. Confirmation**
- The Congregation  
Prays:  
A Devotional Guide  
In Sunday's Bulletin!**

## *The Lenten Road*

For forty years, the children of Israel traveled the wilderness. I have travelled that road... in an air conditioned bus. Even then, we sure were on that bus for a long time. How easy to forget all that we have to be grateful for. How easy to forget the Word that we have been given to trust in. How easy to find reasons for complaint—from the heat to the thirst to the pebbles in our shoes. How very like our life with God.

Israel celebrated the Exodus for centuries at the Passover, singing a portion of the Psalms called *The Great Hallel* (which means, appropriately enough, *praise*.) It says in part:

**When Israel went out from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language,<sup>2</sup> Judah became his sanctuary, Israel his dominion.<sup>3</sup> The sea looked and fled; Jordan turned back.<sup>4</sup> The mountains skipped like rams, the hills like lambs.<sup>5</sup> What ails you, O sea, that you flee? O Jordan, that you turn back? O mountains, that you skip like rams? O hills, like lambs?<sup>7</sup> (Ps 114:1-7)**

God actually did this: He claimed a people for Himself—slaves with nothing to offer. He dwelt with them to be their God, and they were His people. The Psalmist joins the sea with the Jordan River—there's a wall of water behind us and a wall of water in front of us, and our whole life is framed by it. What ails the water, that causes it to

open up and make a way through, which water does not want to do? What troubles the mountains and hills? **Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob,<sup>8</sup> who turns the rock into a pool of water, the flint into a spring of water.** (Ps 114:7-8)

The Lord is present, in the baptismal flood that surrounds you; in His gifts to quench your thirst and revive you. His sanctuary and His dominion—that's what He calls you, His people. A dwelling place for Him and object of His gracious rule. And that He means you, you know by His Words. **Follow me.** He says: **Deny yourselves, take up your cross. Watch and pray.** And, **The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak.**

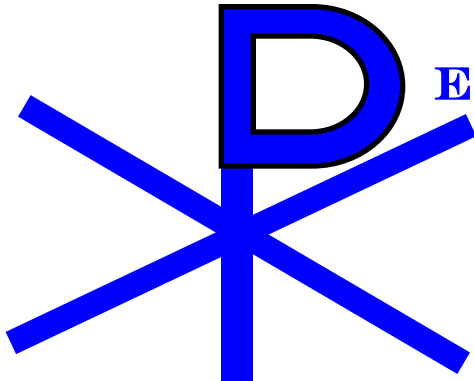
We marked His path before. He came and sanctified it, blessing us by His blameless living and innocent dying—by which He takes all our sins away.

Pentient but having hope. Somber but joyful. Learning, yet knowing what is ahead—as we look forward to the Last Supper, as we keep watch at our dear Savior's Cross, and as we await word of His victory over the grave. The earth will tremble as He dies. It will shake again on the third day.

God bless you for a watchful and prayerful, hopeful and joyful Lenten Journey.

**Ash Wednesday Service—  
Wednesday, March 5th at 4PM at  
Redeemer. Weekly Lenten devotions  
will be uploaded on YouTube**

**St Patrick's Day Luncheon  
Sunday March 16th  
After Bible Class**



## DESERT STREAM CLASSIFIEDS

March, 2025

*In response to various requests from some of our membership to stay informed about meetings, plans and projects, this back page of our newsletter is provided. Please let Pastor know if there is more that we can do to keep everyone in touch and informed!*

**Redeemer  
Lutheran Church**  
*redeemerscottsdale.org*

*Find Us*

*On YouTube*

*and Facebook:*

**Redeemer Lutheran  
Church of Scottsdale**

*Please Promote our  
Worship Services and  
any Online Content*

**THANK YOU TO  
ALL WHO HELP  
OUT ON SUNDAY  
AND THROUGHOUT  
THE WEEK!**

**COMING UP:  
REDEEMER PLANS  
TO HOST  
THE PASTORS OF  
THE ELS  
WEST COAST  
CONFERENCE**

**April 30-May 1**

**Volunteers Needed for  
Services & Hosting**

**Please Contact Pastor**

**The Communion  
Service for the Event is  
open to our members,  
Please join us  
Thursday, May 1st,  
8:45 AM**

- Let's get together on **Sunday, March 2** at the **beginning of Bible Class Hour** to have a **Little Church Huddle** to discuss streamlining and go over details together on upcoming events: Cigars & Scotch; St. Patrick's Day; Mens & Womens Groups.
- **Elders and Council met in February.**
- **Thank you to the Ladies and to the FD for our AED Training Session on Sunday, February 2nd.**
- **Midweek Bible Class** continues on **Tuesday Evenings at 5PM** on Skype. Please join us to study the **book of James** in the month of March.
- **Thank you to all who helped Welcome our Newest Members at Redeemer, Sunday, February 16th!**
- **Elders & Church Council** plan a meeting on **Tuesday, March 11th at 6:30 PM** at the **Muth's home. Thank you for hosting! This is an open meeting. Men interested in leadership are especially invited to attend.** The Following Items are Anticipated for Discussion:
  - Nominations for Office for 2025
  - Additional musical support options for worship
  - Potential Engagement: ELS Congregational Counsellor, Pastor Ed Bryant
  - West Coast Pastor's Conference
  - Internet Service, Website, and Consultation/Support Options
- **Thank you to Dave & Vicki Richards** for hosting the new **Book Club for us!** The book: **The Hammer of God** by **Bo Giertz**— at **Richards' home, on Wednesday, March 19, 6 PM.** Dave & Vicki Richards' home: 7700 E. Nimitz Road, Scottsdale. The Book Club is for men and women, members of the church as well as family, friends and neighbors. The book is available from Amazon. **Please RSVP** by text to Vicki Richards at 520-449-3300. If you do not text, please send an email to Vicki at [jdvail@hotmail.com](mailto:jdvail@hotmail.com).
- **Ladies' Guild**— scheduled to meet on **Sunday, March 23 at Church.** As Sue Muth continues to make coffee for us. Vicki Richards and Susan McIver are taking care of the kitchen. Thank you! We currently have Judy, Marilyn, Vicki, and Erika doing communion preparation: Thank you!
- **New Altar Guild, Musicians, and Communion Assistant** volunteers are needed. Also: If anyone would like to help prepare and distribute a **spiritual gifts inventory**, please let Pastor know.