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**WELCOME:**

**GATHERING SONG: "On Eagle's Wings" (ELW 787)**

**1** You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,  
who abide in this shadow for life,  
say to the Lord: "My refuge,  
my rock in whom I trust!"

***Refrain***

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun,  
and hold you in the palm of his hand.

**2** The snare of the fowler will never capture  
you,  
and famine will bring you no fear;  
under God's wings your refuge,  
with faithfulness your shield. *Refrain*

**3** You need not fear the terror of the night,  
nor the arrow that flies by day;

though thousands fall about you,  
near you it shall not come. *Refrain*

**4** For to the angels God's given a command  
to guard you in all of your ways;  
upon their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

***Final refrain***

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun,  
and hold you in the palm of his hand;  
and hold you, hold you in the palm of his  
hand.

Text: Michael Joncas, b. 1957

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**OPENING PRAYER:**

God of life  
God of hope  
God of all

Lift us  
on your love  
like eagle's wings

Sustain us  
Guide us  
Heal us

Then send us  
forth into  
the world

That we  
may love  
as you love.  
Amen.

~ written by Terri, and posted on RevGalBlogPals.<http://revgalblogpals.blogspot.ca/>

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** "Forever with Great is Thy Faithfulness" – Joni Van Rossum, piano

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

How can we look at the beauty and majesty of this world and not sing of your praises, O God? It is so easy for us to take all that you do for us for granted. We treat the world with callous indifference, using its resources carelessly and with little regard to the future. We turn our backs on people in need, the weak and downtrodden go unnoticed in our midst. O God, you have blessed us with the witness of Jesus Christ who came so that we might learn how you would have us live, in honor and peace. Forgive us. Heal our hearts and spirits. Make us fully aware of all our blessings and our responsibilities. Give us again a spirit of joy in serving you. Help us be agents of peace and hope to others.

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE:**

Jesus has come to heal our spirits and our souls. The spirits of arrogance, indifference and apathy are being cast out by his grace. New life is offered to you in Jesus Christ. Rejoice! Be Glad! For God's love is poured out to you this day. AMEN.

— written by Nancy C. Townley, and posted on the Ministry Matters website.

## **FIRST READING:** Isaiah 40:21-31 *Read by Dave Krueger*

<sup>21</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

<sup>22</sup>It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,

and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;

who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,

and spreads them like a tent to live in;

<sup>23</sup>who brings princes to naught,

and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

<sup>24</sup>Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,

scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,

when he blows upon them, and they wither,

and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

<sup>25</sup>To whom then will you compare me,

or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

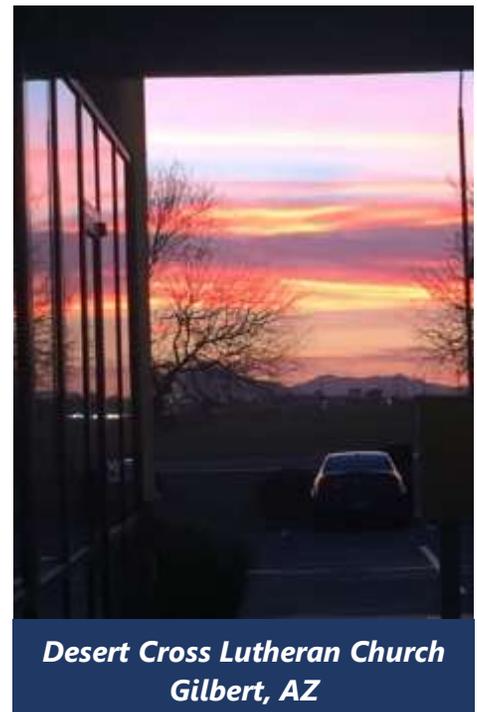
<sup>26</sup>Lift up your eyes on high and see:

Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them,

calling them all by name;

because he is great in strength,



*Desert Cross Lutheran Church  
Gilbert, AZ*

mighty in power,  
not one is missing.

<sup>27</sup>Why do you say, O Jacob,  
and speak, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the LORD,  
and my right is disregarded by my God”?

<sup>28</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
The LORD is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;  
his understanding is unsearchable.

<sup>29</sup>He gives power to the faint,  
and strengthens the powerless.

<sup>30</sup>Even youths will faint and be weary,  
and the young will fall exhausted;

<sup>31</sup>but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,  
they shall run and not be weary,  
they shall walk and not faint.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** “Celtic Alleluia” ELW #174

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia

Text and music: Fintan O’Carrooll and Chirstopher Walker

**GOSPEL:** Mark 1:29-39

<sup>29</sup>As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup>Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. <sup>31</sup>He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

<sup>32</sup>That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. <sup>33</sup>And the whole city was gathered around the door. <sup>34</sup>And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

<sup>35</sup>In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup>And Simon and his companions hunted for him. <sup>37</sup>When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." <sup>38</sup>He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." <sup>39</sup>And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**SERMON:** Pastor Thaddeus Book

**SERMON SONG:** "Lord I Need You"

**Verse 1**

Lord I come, I confess  
Bowling here, I find my rest

**Chorus 1**

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You  
Ev'ry hour, I need You  
My one defense, my righteousness  
Oh, God, how I need You

**Verse 2**

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more  
Where grace is found, is where You are  
And where You are, Lord I am free  
Holiness is Christ in me  
Where You are, Lord, I am free  
Holiness is Christ in me

And without You I fall apart  
You're the one that guides my heart

**Bridge**

So teach my song to rise to You  
When temptation comes my way  
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You  
Jesus You're my hope and stay  
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You  
Jesus You're my hope and stay

**Chorus**

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Kristian Stanfill | Matt Maher  
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## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:**

The peace of the Lord be with you.

Let us pray.

As the prophet Isaiah rang out, "Arise, shine; for your light has come";

empower your Church, O God,

to ring out the Good News of the Light of your son Jesus,

which pierces even the deepest darkness.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

As a star rose high into the nighttime sky

to draw the nations to the Christ-child;

send your blessing, O God, on this nation, and every nation,

and draw the whole world to your peace and truth.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

As John the Baptist guided people to the edge of the wilderness and baptized Jesus in the River Jordan,

we pray that you would guide our country and our leaders to the ways of justice and righteousness.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

As Jesus climbed the mountaintop,

and proclaimed blessings on the people of the world;

we pray for those who are sick and distressed, especially

for healing from COVID-19 and strength for caretakers and frontline workers.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**



*Desert Cross Lutheran Church  
Tempe, AZ*

~ adapted from Rick Morley, and posted on **A Garden Path**. <http://www.rickmorley.com/>

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,  
Let us pray as Jesus taught us:  
Our Father, who art in heaven,  
    hallowed be thy name,  
    thy kingdom come,  
    thy will be done,  
        on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
    as we forgive those  
        who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
    but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
    and the power, and the glory,  
    forever and ever. Amen.



## SENDING SONG: "Be Thou My Vision" (ELW 793)

- 1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
thou my best thought  
both by day and by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
- 2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,  
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
- 3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,  
thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,  
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.
- 4 Light of my soul, after victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931

## BENEDICTION:

God the creator strengthen you;  
Jesus the beloved fill you;  
And the Holy Spirit, the comforter +  
keep you in peace. Amen.

**Musicians:** Daniel Decker (vocalist), Michael Lottes (vocalist), and Joni Van Rossum, piano