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NCLC Calendar

Sermon Series: Lingering in the Graveyard

This Sunday: A New Adam! John 20:19 - 31

In-person Worship on the Patio at 8:00 AM Live Stream to Facebook at 10:00 AM

Groups		
3rd - 5th grade Sunday School	Sun	11:15 AM
Hospitality Zoom	Sun	11:00 AM
Women's Bible Study	Tues	7:00 PM
Men's Bible Study	Wed	7:00 AM
Upcoming Events		
Soul Sister Hike	4/10	7:00 AM

ONLINE WORSHIP INSTRUCTIONS:

New Covenant Lutheran Church continues to hold online worship services.

We use Facebook Live for our online worship services. You do not have to have a Facebook account to watch the service.

FACEBOOK: go to New Covenant Lutheran Church's Facebook page at 10 am Sunday to see the video live.

Our Facebook page is at

www.facebook.com/NewCovenantAZ



Greetings to you all, brothers and sisters!

What a glorious Easter we are experiencing. God is moving through our church and community in powerful ways. I am so grateful for the Holy Spirit and the Power that comes from Christ Jesus! And I am grateful for each of you! God bless you on this first week of Easter!

This Sunday we will once again offer an outdoor worship service, in-person at 8:00 am. What a refreshing experience to see one another and to be together again for worship. The Board of Ministry met on Monday evening and they are no longer requiring pre-registration. However, they do ask you to continue to mask and to socially distance with your pod of people on the patio. And remember to bring your chair! If you prefer, you can still worship with us online at 10:00 am.

This Sunday, I am beginning a series titled, "Lingering in the Graveyard." It may bring up numerous images for you. However, my intent is to focus on Jesus in the post-resurrection stories. Why did Jesus linger in the graveyard – on earth? Why didn't he rocket straight up into heaven? What was his point in appearing to his disciples and followers, revealing his crucified and resurrected body? When all of heaven waited to welcome him home, why did he linger in the graveyard of earth to be mistaken for a gardener at the grave?

This Sunday we will encounter the "doubting Thomas" as we explore why Jesus remained for a while, responding to Thomas' skepticism. The scripture text is from John 20: 19-31. The focus of our sermon will be "A New Adam!" I hope that you will join us either in person or online!

Pastor Steve

April Mission Project This month we are collecting money for the Vista del Camino "Beat the Heat Program"

Vista del Camino "Beat the Heat Program" that provides summer care packages to Scottsdale Senior Citizens who are low income, isolated, homebound, or disabled.



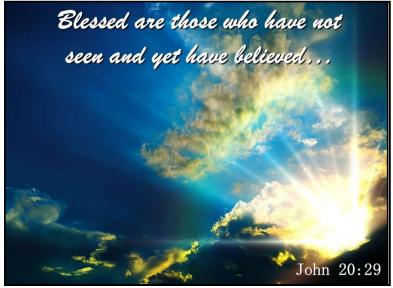


A truck from NourishPHX (formerly ICM) will be at Mary Reynoso's soon.
Contact Mary at mreynoso1@cox.net and get your items to her by Sunday, 4/11.



Building Fund Drive 2021

Goal: \$50,000 To date: \$28,855



BUILDING FUN

We hope you will prayerfully consider giving to our 2021 Building Fund. Pledge cards can be completed online, as for the General Fund Pledge a few months ago, or you can mail your pledge to the office. Identified projects include an upgrade to our livestreaming environment for online worship, painting the church trim, refinishing the narthex doors and landscape concerns.

Gifts to New Covenant Lutheran Church

Thank you for your continued financial gifts that allow us to carry out God's mission for Hope!

Giving online is quick, secure and easy. Give once, or schedule recurring gifts using your checking account, debit or credit card! During this season of no weekly offering baskets being passed, consider switching your gifts to online!

Visit our website at <u>www.newcovenantaz.church</u> And click on Donate Now



Sunday School for 3rd - 5th graders 11:15 AM Acts 2: 1-13

Our Sunday School lesson this week will fast forward us straight to Pentecost (which is May 23 this year) as we move into a new series of lessons on The Early Church. The disciples were together on the day of Pentecost, but they had no idea that God's gift of the Holy Spirit was about to be revealed among them. No one has ever seen God, but these Christ-followers saw something incredible that day!

I am so excited to share that the next five weeks of Sunday school will be led by our pastoral intern, Jen Smith, who is completing her internship year of seminary with New Covenant as well as three other churches in the NE Valley. We will surely be blessed by Jen's heart for mentoring our Sunday school children as these were her words to me in an email today ... "Thanks be to God - such fun work we get to do!"

(Sunday's Call to Worship Hymn)

Thine Is the Glory

Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son
Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away
Kept the folded graveclothes where thy body lay
Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son
Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Lo, Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom
Let his church with gladness hymns of triumph sing
For the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting!
Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son
Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife
Make us more than conqu'rors, through thy deathless love
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above
Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son
Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!



(Sunday's Message Song)

Living Hope

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished, the end is written
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy?
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken; I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!
You have broken ev'ry chain. There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!
You have broken ev'ry chain. There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me
Jesus, Yours is the victory!

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!
You have broken ev'ry chain. There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!
You have broken ev'ry chain. There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope
Jesus Christ, my living hope
Oh God, You are my living hope

(Sunday's Sending Song)

Forever

Give thanks to the Lord our God and King
His love endures forever
For He is good, He is above all things
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise

With a mighty hand and outstretched arm
His love endures forever
For the life that's been reborn
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise
Sing praise, sing praise

Forever God is faithful, forever God is strong Forever God is with us, forever, forever

From the rising to the setting sun
His love endures forever
And by the grace of God we will carry on
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise
Sing praise, sing praise

Forever God is faithful, forever God is strong Forever God is with us, forever, forever