

**Esperanza Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
**2601 E Thunderhill Place, Phoenix**  
**480-759-1515, [www.myesperanza.org](http://www.myesperanza.org)**

**Christ the King Sunday**  
**November 26, 2023**

*On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.*

**Esperanza Mission Statement**

Esperanza Lutheran Church creates authentic connections and a deep sense of belonging as a Christ-centered community.

**Esperanza Guiding Principles**

1. We set our goals guided by God.
2. We welcome all and respect diverse opinions.
3. We deepen our spirituality and put our faith in motion.

**Announcements**

To access our weekly Words of Hope newsletter visit:  
<https://myesperanza.org/woh>

To access our up to date calendar visit:  
<https://myesperanza.org/calendar/>

**You Are Generous!** Your belief that God has plans for our congregation is evident as you are declaring your generosity! So far, we have received 51 intents toward our goal of 61 (84%).

**If you haven't yet responded, please submit your 2024 giving intent in one of the following ways:**

- Fill out the online version of the card online at <https://myesperanza.org/intent-card/>
- Bring your intent card to church this Sunday and drop it the basket on the altar.
- If you misplaced your card or never received one, you may pick one up in the church office or narthex.
- Mail or take your card to the church office.

Your generosity will make a tremendous difference as we seek to strengthen our ministry.

**Mid-Week Advent Worship-** Wednesday December 6 & 13 at 7:00pm

**Blue Christmas- Wednesday, December 20, 7 pm** In a world beset by war and injustice, mental health concerns and family conflict, all are welcome to gather for Blue Christmas worship. Because Christmas is celebrated with such merriment in our culture, those who do not feel merry can feel even more overwhelmed and saddened during the Christmas season. At Blue Christmas worship, pain and sorrow are acknowledged; there is space for however you are. Blue Christmas worship is in person only and will not be live streamed— with a desire to provide a safe space for grief. When we gather, even to acknowledge pain, community can lift us up and give hope. Please join us.

**LSS-SW Christmas Tree gifts-** If you took a request from the Christmas tree please return the gift to the office no later than December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Questions? See Tom Vega 630-508-7456

**Thank you!** for the generous responses to the appeal for funds to purchase Sam's chickens for our I-HELP dinner November 28th. We have the sign up sheet in Narthex. Questions? See Linda Dickson

**Volunteers are needed** to supply items for the 27 sack lunches or donate \$20, and Linda will crochet a chicken potholder for you. Thank you for your willingness to share your time, skills, and financial support.

**Outreach Team Project-** Has anyone ever improved your day by providing a kind word of encouragement? One of the projects the Outreach Team agreed to provide to our community is an Affirmation Wall for students and staff at Kyrene de la Esperanza Elementary School. Therefore, the Outreach Team has provided blank post-it notes and markers in order for the congregation to write inspirational messages to the students and staff of Kyrene de la Esperanza. The completed post-it notes will be delivered to the school once they establish an area for their Affirmation Wall. It will be accessible to both students and staff so they can choose a note that brightens or improves their day. So, start thinking of those kind, positive, and encouraging messages and feel free to include your children, grandchildren, neighbors, and friends! Anyone can participate! Grab some notes from the small lectern in the Narthex and write some out while you are at church, during coffee hour, or at home. Please return the completed notes to either the lectern or the church office. "Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing." 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (ESV)

**Habitat House-** The new build has begun! See John Fisher or John Gemma for more information.

**HOLIDAY PROGRESSIVE DINNER IS BACK!** Saturday Dec. 2nd. Details and sign up board are in the Narthex. Questions? See Peggy Wagner or Kristie Wright

**Kyrene Family Resource Center:** While KFRC welcomes a variety of non-perishable foods, there is a current need for granola bars, pasta sauce, dried pinto beans, rice, cereal, and

shampoo. Place donations in box/shopping cart in the Fellowship Hall. Through Oct. 2023, Esperanza has donated 1001 lbs. of food to KFRC. Thank you! Any questions, please contact Peggy or Larry Hanson.

**Voices For CASA:** \$10 fast-food gift cards go to CASAs (Court Appointed Special Advocates) for their meetings with the foster children they help. Please bring any gift cards to the church office. Questions? Contact John Gemma at [jgemma@cox.net](mailto:jgemma@cox.net).

**Prayer Shawls:** Prayers shawls can be found on the rack by the altar and are for ANYONE who is in need (illness, birth of a baby, marriage, or in need of a pick me up). Please fill out the white card that is attached and place the card in the Prayer Shawl container (on the counter in the entryway to the sanctuary).

**Promesa de Esperanza Rehearsal!** The choir rehearses on Wednesdays at 7 pm in the sanctuary. All adults are welcome—even if you have not participated in choir before! Questions? Contact Kazin Cole at (480) 550-0852.

#### **Esperanza Staff Members**

**Interim Pastor Sarah Stadler**

[pastor.sarah@myesperanza.org](mailto:pastor.sarah@myesperanza.org) 602-318-6876

**Deacon Connie Rose-Kamprath** | Family Ministry Coordinator, Children of Hope Teacher

[deacon.connie@myesperanza.org](mailto:deacon.connie@myesperanza.org)

**Lynn Hockenberger** | Children of Hope Director

[childrenofhope@myesperanza.org](mailto:childrenofhope@myesperanza.org)

**Joni Thorpe** | Parish Administrator

[esperanza@myesperanza.org](mailto:esperanza@myesperanza.org)

**Kazin Cole** | Choir Director [kazin.cole@myesperanza.org](mailto:kazin.cole@myesperanza.org)

**Doug Carroll** | Writer [doug.carroll721@gmail.com](mailto:doug.carroll721@gmail.com), 480-213-0599

**Lai Gates** | Accompanist

**Amy Angilletta** | Children of Hope Teacher

**Kathy Dolny** | Children of Hope Teacher

**Cindy Gerrish** | Children of Hope Teacher

**Jessica Mueller** | Children of Hope Teacher

**Rebecca Paterson** | Children of Hope Teacher

**Jess Pierce** | Children of Hope Teacher

**Caleb Rose-Kamprath** | Children of Hope Teacher

**Jane Gisselquist** | Financial Secretary

[finsec@myesperanza.org](mailto:finsec@myesperanza.org)

#### **Council Members/Team Leadership**

Jim Gisselquist - President (Personnel) - [jimgiz@gmail.com](mailto:jimgiz@gmail.com)

Craig Peck - Vice President (Property) -

[craigpeck.esperanza@gmail.com](mailto:craigpeck.esperanza@gmail.com)

Michael Paradise – Treasurer (Communications)

[michaelparadise.esperanza@gmail.com](mailto:michaelparadise.esperanza@gmail.com)

Chris Armfield – Secretary [chrisarmfield@hotmail.com](mailto:chrisarmfield@hotmail.com)

Susan Brown –Outreach - [browngary214@gmail.com](mailto:browngary214@gmail.com)

Julie Valenzuela - (Fellowship) - [jvalenz150@gmail.com](mailto:jvalenz150@gmail.com)

Beth Leaf - (Education) – [leafmanaz@cox.net](mailto:leafmanaz@cox.net)

Paige Somero - (Worship and Music) -

[paige.somero@nxp.com](mailto:paige.somero@nxp.com)

Chuck Yount - (Stewardship) - [chuckyount00@gmail.com](mailto:chuckyount00@gmail.com)

#### **This Week At Esperanza**

**Sunday, November 26th**

9:00am Worship (SAN)

10:00am Fellowship (FH)

NO Sunday Funday School (CR)

10:30am Adult Education (SAN)

#### **Monday, November 27th**

9:00am Women's AA group (CR)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

3:30pm Music Lessons (SAN)

6:00pm Jazz practice (SAN)

#### **Tuesday, November 28th**

6:30am Toastmasters (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

4:30pm Music Lessons (SAN)

6:00pm Call Committee (GAR)

#### **Wednesday, November 29th**

9:00am 12 Step (CR)

10:00am Mary's Circle (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

12:30pm Staff Meeting (FH)

7:00pm Boy Scouts (CR)

7:00pm Promesa de Esperanza Rehearsal (SAN)

#### **Thursday, November 30th**

7:00am AA (CR)

10:00am Thursday Matters (FH)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

5:30pm Women's Bible Study (GAR)

#### **Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>**

8:00am Toast Masters (FH)

9:00am AA (CR)

11:30am Ahwatukee Nooners (CR)

#### **Saturday, December 2nd**

8:00am Men's AA (CR)

8:00am COH Breakfast with Santa (SAN/FH)

6:00pm Progressive Dinner (offsite)

#### **Sunday, December 3rd**

9:00am Worship (SAN)

10:00am Fellowship (FH)

10:15am Sunday Funday School (CR)

10:30am Adult Education (SAN)

6:30pm Fiesta Story Hour (Fibber Magees)

CR – Community Room (upstairs)

SAN – Sanctuary

FH – Fellowship Hall

GAR – Garden of Eatin'

LC-Lower Courtyard

#### **Today's Worship Leaders**

Greeter- Peggy Shephard

Lector- Paul Wagner

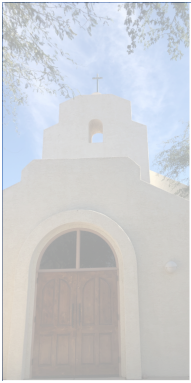
Communion Assistants- KC & Christine Quah

Power Point- Terri Beeks

Assisting Minister- Jim Nelson

Ushers- Larry Hanson, Paul Gerrish, Cindy Jackson

Counters- John & Kathy Gemma



## Welcome to Worship!

Time after Pentecost

November 26, 2023

*Hymnals and Bibles are found under the seats.*

Gathering Song: # 389 v.1,4,5

Song of the Day: # 679

Offertory: # 186

Communion Hymn: # 502

Sending Song: Awesome God

**We live stream our worship services.**