



# JAMES

## FAITH WORKS

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021  
10:30AM CONTEMPORARY



# DEPLOYMENT UPDATE



I remember as a kid learning how to swim. The first time my mom took the floaties off, I recall kicking my feet like a madman trying to keep my head above water – it was exhausting... and it's that feeling that describes how many of us felt over the last several weeks as we participated in *Operation Allies Refuge* – the largest non-combatant military airlift in United States history. 16-hour days were hard on the body and the soul.

It's hard to describe the sights, smells, and stories of the last few weeks. When I've taken time to sit down and think about it, it's hard not to get choked up. Bare feet have told the stories of desperation. Scarred bodies have told the stories of torture at the hands of the Taliban. Sweating babies have told the stories of an overwhelmed base (that was never supposed to get Refugees in the first place).

In the day-in and day-out craziness of this operation, I was constantly reminded of Jesus' words in Matthew 25: "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me [...] as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me."

It's easy to look at this Operation and make it political, asking questions such as "did we exit Afghanistan in a good way" (NO!) and even "whose job is it to care for these Refugees?"

But let me be truthful with you: **politics and political stances should never take away our compassion.** Jesus reminds us very clearly: Christians feed the hungry. Christians give drink to the thirsty. Christians clothe the naked. Christians visit the sick. Christians welcome the stranger.

Why? Because that's what Jesus did for us.

Operation Allies Refuge has changed my life. It has reminded me once again of the great love Jesus has showered on me... and you. As you think on that – always remember that Jesus loves you, and so do I.

*With love and appreciation for your prayers and support,  
Pastor Travis Ferguson*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CHRIST-LIKE SERVANT LEADER WORKSHOP

A culture of trust is imperative to attain and sustain a high performing team – and ultimately superior performance. This unique workshop will discuss practical behaviors that convey a caring leadership style – all modeled by Jesus Christ - that create the most important element of a high performing team: trust. Leadership equals influence. Anyone in any kind of leadership role is invited to be part of this workshop experience. So, join us on Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in Lucas Hall from September 15-November 17. Become the servant leader Christ wants to make you to be! More information available at [christlamesa.org/leadership](http://christlamesa.org/leadership).

## NEW MEMBER CLASS

Pastor Burkey is teaching a New Member class beginning Sunday, October 3 in the Teachers Lounge. This class is for people interested in joining Christ Lutheran, as well as long-time members who want a refresher about what we believe and teach as Lutheran Christians. For more information, contact Pastor Burkey at [rburkey@christlamesa.org](mailto:rburkey@christlamesa.org).

## SERVE SUNDAY

Save the date for our next Serve Sunday, on October 10. Watch this space for more details as they are confirmed.

## WEEKEND TO REMEMBER

Great marriages don't just happen. Be intentional with yours. Rekindle Your Love. Express Forgiveness · Increase Commitment · Escape Distractions. Attend one of the Weekends to Remember in San Diego, October 15-17 at the Hyatt Regency La Jolla, on October 22-24 or at the San Diego Marriot, Del Mar.

The difference between a good marriage and a great marriage is hard work. Go to [www.familylife.com/weekend](http://www.familylife.com/weekend) to find out more and register using our church's group code of clcm for the reduced rate of \$250/couple.

## FLOWERS

The flowers are given by Frank & DeAna Verbeke in glory to God for family and friends celebrating birthdays in September, especially their nieces, Melissa, celebrating her 32nd birthday, and Julia, celebrating her 19th birthday.

## AS WE GATHER

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church! Today we continue the message series called "Faith Works", exploring texts from the book of James. Today's message explores James 1:12-18, "Faith Works When Temptations Knock". One of the most comforting teachings from the Bible is that Jesus was tempted in every way, just as we are, so He knows what we face. Better yet, He can show us the way to avoid temptations through His powerful Word. *"Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him."* (James 1:12)

## WELCOME & INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

## OPENING SONGS

## YOUR LOVE NEVER FAILS

Nothing can separate, even if I run away, Your love never fails  
I know I'll still make mistakes; You have new mercy for me every day  
Your love never fails

You stay the same through the ages, Your love never changes  
There may be pain in the night, but joy comes in the morning  
And when the oceans rage, I don't have to be afraid  
Because I know that You love me, Your love never fails

The wind is strong and the water's deep  
I'm not alone here in these open seas, Your love never fails  
The chasm is far too wide; I never thought I'd reach the other side  
Your love never fails

You stay the same through the ages, Your love never changes  
There may be pain in the night, but joy comes in the morning  
And when the oceans rage, I don't have to be afraid  
Because I know that You love me

You make all things work together for my good (REPEAT 3x)

You stay the same through the ages, Your love never changes  
There may be pain in the night, but joy comes in the morning  
And when the oceans rage, I don't have to be afraid  
Because I know that You love me

## **LEAD ME TO THE CROSS**

Savior, I come, quiet my soul, remember redemption's hill  
Where Your blood was spilled for my ransom  
Everything I once held dear, I count it all as loss

Lead me to the cross, where Your love poured out  
Bring me to my knees, Lord I lay me down  
Rid me of myself, I belong to You  
Oh lead me, lead me to the cross

You were as I, tempted and trialed, human  
The word became flesh, bore my sin in death, now You're risen  
Everything I once held dear, I count it all as loss

Lead me to the cross, where Your love poured out  
Bring me to my knees, Lord I lay me down  
Rid me of myself, I belong to You  
Oh lead me, lead me to the cross

To Your heart, to Your heart  
Lead me to Your heart, lead me to Your heart

Lead me to the cross, where Your love poured out  
Bring me to my knees, Lord I lay me down  
Rid me of myself, I belong to You  
Oh lead me, lead me to the cross (REPEAT)

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

**JAMES 1:12-18**

Reader: In James, the first chapter, Christians are encouraged to persevere when facing temptation, trusting that God is never a source of evil.

<sup>12</sup> Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

<sup>13</sup> When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; <sup>14</sup> but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. <sup>15</sup> Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

<sup>16</sup> Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. <sup>17</sup> Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. <sup>18</sup> He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

## MATTHEW 4:1-11

Reader: To honor the words and works of Jesus, please stand for the Holy Gospel. Jesus is tempted by Satan and stands up to it with His Word, in the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup> After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup> The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

<sup>4</sup> Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. <sup>6</sup> "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: "'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'"

<sup>7</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. <sup>9</sup> "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."

<sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"

<sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **STATEMENT OF FAITH**

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by  
the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius  
Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. He will come  
again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the  
communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of  
the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

## **DCE CHERI SELANDER**

## **MESSAGE SONG**

## **LORD, I NEED YOU**

Lord, I come, I confess. Bowing here I find my rest.  
And without You I fall apart. You're the One that guides my heart.

Lord, I need You, Oh, I need You. Every hour I need You.  
My one defense, my righteousness; Oh, God, how I need You.

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.

Lord, I need You, Oh, I need You. Every hour I need You.  
My one defense, my righteousness; Oh, God, how I need You.

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.

Lord, I need You, Oh, I need You. Every hour I need You.  
My one defense, my righteousness; Oh, God, how I need You.  
Lord, I need You, Oh, I need You. Every hour I need You.  
My one defense, my righteousness; Oh, God, how I need You.  
My one defense, my righteousness; Oh, God, how I need You.

**MESSAGE:**

**FAITH WORKS WHEN TEMPTATIONS KNOCK  
PASTOR RICHARD BURKEY**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHRISTLAMESA.ORG/GIVE  
7929 LA MESA BLVD, LA MESA CA 91942**

**Let Us Know You're Worshipping With Us!**



*Scan the code with your phone's camera or go to [christlamesa.org/connectioncard](http://christlamesa.org/connectioncard).*

*Checks can be mailed to 7929 La Mesa Blvd. La Mesa CA 92041*

*A limited number of paper connection cards are located at the after-Communion tables.*

**PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER** *(Please stand)*

**People:** 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.

## BENEDICTION

Leader: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**People: Amen.**

## CLOSING SONG

## JOYFUL, JOYFUL WE ADORE THEE

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love  
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, praising thee, their sun above  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the gloom of doubt away  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, earth and heaven reflect Thy rays  
Stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in Thee

Joy, joy, joyfully we sing!  
Joy, joy, praises to the King!

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest  
Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, fountainhead of love divine  
Joyful, we Thy heaven inherit, joyful, we by grace are Thine

Joy, joy, joyfully we sing!  
Joy, joy, praises to the King!

# THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

## PREACHER

Pastor Richard Burkey

## WORSHIP LEADER

8:00 am: Jacob Sitze

10:30 am: Tim Walsworth

## MUSIC LEADER

8:00 am: Roger Howard

10:30 am: Kathy Barkett

## ACOLYTE

8:00 am: Delia Sitze

10:30 am: Misty Sullivan

## READER

8:00 am: Robin Vincelett

10:30 am: Mary Tripp

## MEDIA TECHNICIANS

8:00 am: Eric Berg, Stella Gardner

10:30 am: Joseph and Mark Arzillo

## SPECIAL MUSIC

8:00 am: Sanctuary Choir

## COMMUNION ASSISTANT

8:00 am: Steve Smith, Jim Weselis

## WORSHIP PARTNER

8:00 am: Mike McGhen

10:30 am: Dennis Wetjen

**Are you interested in serving on Sunday?  
Visit [christlamesa.org/volunteer](http://christlamesa.org/volunteer) today!**

# MESSAGE FROM GOD'S LIFE-BUILDING WORD

## Faith Works When Temptations Knock

September 19, 2021

**Introduction:** A Large Bear Trap

***Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him. (James 1:12)***

1. Consider the consequences.

James 1:13 When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone.

James 1:14-15 <sup>14</sup> But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. <sup>15</sup> Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

2. Consider the bait.

James 1:16 Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters.

James 1:17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

### 3. Consider the promise.

James 1:18 He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

James 1:12 Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

**Conclusion:** Just a little?

***Things I'd like to remember from this week's message:***

## G.P.S. – GROW, PRAY, STUDY GUIDE

Get the weekly GPS on your computer/phone/etc. by going to the site: [www.clcm-gps.com](http://www.clcm-gps.com). You can also get automatic notifications by sending a text to 81010 with the text @clcm-gps, or by subscribing through Feedly.com (or any other RSS reader).

**Day 1:** Read *James 1:13*. What's interesting in this first chapter of James is not only when temptations keep coming, so will trials. If that weren't enough James uses the same Greek word for trials and temptations. So, what's the difference between the two? Their source and their goal. God uses trials to help us grow. Satan uses temptation to lead us to sin. Think about a challenge you are facing. How is Satan using it as a temptation? How is God using it as a trial to make you stronger?

**Day 2:** Read *James 1:14-15*. Satan follows is a consistent 3-step process with temptation: Desire. Disobedience. Death. It is not that every time you and I give in to temptation and sin, that we die. We have the forgiveness of Christ that we can hold on to and receive. Where have you seen this patten at work in your life? Where do you need to ask for forgiveness? To pray to the Holy Spirit for strength?

**Day 3:** Read *James 1:16*. Central to dealing successfully with temptations is to refuse to be deceived, fooled, or hoodwinked. How has Satan used that tactic in your life in the past? Where might he be seeking to deceive you in your life today?

**Day 4:** Read *James 1:17*. When temptations and trials come knocking, James wants us to know God is not the enemy. God is the source of goodness. Give thanks for 5 gifts of goodness you have seen God provide in the last 24 hours.

**Day 5:** Read *James 1:18*. While Satan uses desire's bait to hide temptation's hook, to catch you. God uses firstfruits to give you a glimpse of the great work His grace can do in your life. Where have you seen God's grace at work in your life this week?

**Day 6:** Read *James 1:12*. Even when you fall into temptation, you bite the bait, you've done what's wrong. Satan will seek to keep you down, and Jesus' arms extend from a cross to lift you up. Ask God to forgive your sin, then rejoice in the forgiveness, mercy, and grace God gives to you this day!

## GOING DEEPER & NEXT WEEK

**Book:** *Three Steps Forward, Two Steps Back: Persevering Through Pressure* by Charles R. Swindoll

**Next Sunday:** James 1:19-27 "Faith Works Listen Do Continue"

# WHAT'S GOING ON THIS WEEK?

## TODAY | SEPTEMBER 19

8:00 am—Traditional Worship with Holy Communion

9:15 am—**Christian Education Hour**

*Focus*—Room 101

*Bereans*—Room 203

*The Village*—Room 202

9:15—**Sunday School**

*3yrs - Kindergarten*—Lucas Hall, Top Floor

*Grades 2-6*—Youth Center, Room 1

*Confirmation*—Lucas Hall

*Senior High*—Youth Center Room 3

10:30 am—Contemporary Worship

4:00 pm—Divorce Care, DC4K, DCTeens—Rooms 201-203

5:00 pm—Senior High Sunday Night—Youth Center

## MONDAY | SEPTEMBER 20

No Events Planned

## TUESDAY | SEPTEMBER 21

7:00 pm—Sabbath Sound Bell Rehearsal—Sanctuary

7:00 pm—Alcoholics Anonymous—Youth Building Room 1

## WEDNESDAY | SEPTEMBER 22

10:00 am—Women's Bible Study—Lucas Hall

6:30 pm—Christ-like Servant Leader Class/Gathering—Lucas Hall

## THURSDAY | SEPTEMBER 23

9:30 am —Insights Bible Study—Lucas Hall

6:30 pm—Al Anon Meeting—Fireside Room

7:00 pm—Choir Rehearsal—Music Room

## FRIDAY | SEPTEMBER 24

No Events Planned

## SATURDAY | SEPTEMBER 25

7:30 am—Men's Bible Study—Lucas Hall

1:00 pm—Shirley Dukes Celebration of Life

**Our calendar is always available at  
[christlamesa.org/calendar](http://christlamesa.org/calendar).**



# In Our Prayers



## REJOICING

We rejoice in the great start to our Sunday morning Christian Education hour last week, including thirty-four registered confirmation students.

We praise God for our young dynamic disciples serving as acolytes (13), school handbell ringers (49), youth counselors (18), and CrossFire Band musicians (10). We ask God to grant them joy as they serve.

## ASKING

We ask God to continue to provide a hedge of protection around Christ Lutheran Church Ministries as we seek to keep preschool, school, and church activities in session amid the ongoing threat of COVID.

We ask God to raise up a new church administrator to fill our vacant position, that we may continue to be good stewards of the resources He gives.

## CALLING

We pray for God's wisdom and grace for educators at all levels as they serve their communities.

## SERVING

We thank God for the leaders and hosts of Bible classes and Life Groups at Christ Lutheran as they help us grow in our faith and knowledge of God's Word.

We thank God for the members of our Prayers and Squares quilting ministry as they provide comfort and a loving touch to people who are hurting.