



Love of Christ Lutheran Church

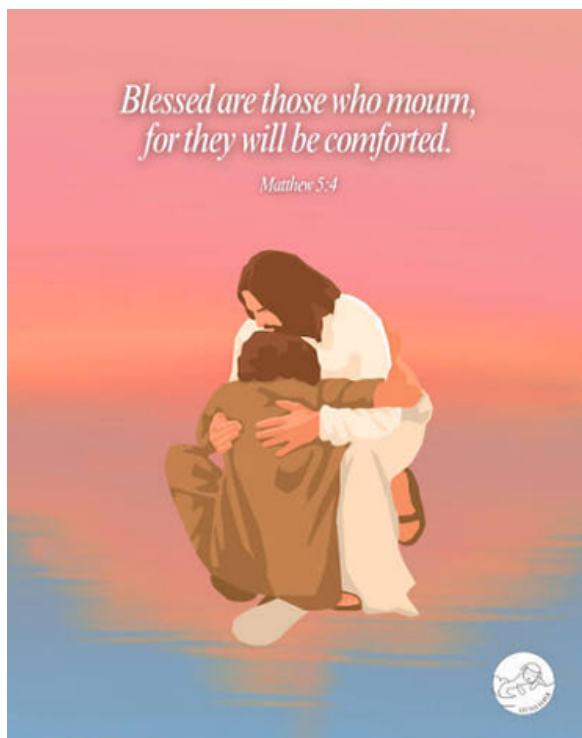
1525 North Power Road
Mesa AZ 85205

Fax: (480) 832-2583

Office: (480) 981-6199

Welcome to LOC's Weekly E-News

ENews for All Saints Sunday, November 1, 2026



Blessed Are Those Who Mourn

On All Saints Sunday, we hear Jesus proclaim the Beatitudes, words of blessing for those who mourn, hunger for righteousness, show mercy, make peace, and endure hardship for the sake of faithfulness.

These words of Jesus remind us that even in our darkest hours of mourning we will be comforted. Jesus reminds us that God's blessing is not measured by worldly success but by God's gracious presence among us.

As we remember the saints who have gone before us and give thanks for the saints among us, we trust Christ's promise that we belong to the kingdom of heaven and are surrounded by God's enduring grace.



As part of our 10:30 worship service on November 1, we will include a remembrance and commendation of Bill Warren, who died unexpectedly at home in August. Bill, and his wife Merry, were faithful participants in the life of this congregation since their wedding on December 7, 2019 and always sat in the front row at 10:30. Merry now suffers from Alzheimer's and is in a care home. This congregation became Bill's faith family, so on All Saints Sunday, both pastors felt it was important to acknowledge Bill among the saints we will be remembering.



We remember all those who are part of the "communion of saints" we confess whenever we recite The Apostles' Creed. We share stories of those "to glory gone." Retelling these stories grounds us in our history. These memories teach us how God has provided for us through the generosity and sacrifice of those who have come before us. The stories of the saints encourage us to be all God has created us to be.

A Prayer for All Saints Sunday

Almighty God, we remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you in your Church on earth and who now rest from their labors. Keep us in fellowship with all your saints, and bring us at last to the joy of your heavenly Kingdom; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.



Adult Study, Wednesday evenings, starting at 6:00PM in the Fellowship Hall

It's no accident that America is home to a wide range of religious expressions. Immigrants brought their faith with them from around the globe and established churches and denominations. But the most unique quality of American religious life is the innovation and experimentation that takes place here. This makes this country a free marketplace for faith.

This series documents the eternal argument about the relationship between the church and civil authority. The country's founders, seeing the intolerance of the early immigrants, wisely sought to create a republic where faith could be practiced freely but where a theocracy would be avoided.



Lutheran Disaster Response

Lutheran Disaster Response provides partnership support

<https://www.elca.org/how-we-serve/relief-and-development/lutheran-disaster-response>

Since 1973, we have remained grounded in our mission to share God's hope, healing and renewal with people impacted by disasters and other humanitarian crises. We recognize that every disaster is local and that community leaders and organizations are best equipped to address needs following a disaster.

We accompany partners worldwide across the disaster cycle—response, recovery, mitigation and preparedness—providing financial support, technical assistance, advocacy and networking.

This work is relational: we stand with communities, congregations, and synods, social ministry partners, community-based organizations, tribal nations, companion churches and ecumenical partners. Through the faithful work of our network, the Community of Practice, Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) is a trusted and dependable partner.

We work with everyone and stay as long as needed, often for years. Key work includes providing emotional and spiritual care for affected people and leaders who respond, assisting communities holistically to meet varied needs, and preparedness planning and providing long-term recovery by addressing unmet needs months or years after a disaster strikes.



The next meeting of the LOC Book Club will be held on Sunday, November 15, 2026 at 10:15 am in the Leadership Room (located next to the Church Offices). We will be discussing *Whistler* by Ann Patchett.

Here is a brief synopsis:

Whistler is a story about two adults, Daphne Fuller and Eddie Triplett, who knew each other for just over a year, 40 plus years ago, as stepdaughter and stepfather. They hadn't seen each other since the fateful event that changed the direction of both of their lives. This chance meeting at the Metropolitan Museum of Art deeply impacts both of them, neither wanting to lose touch again.

This is a story about the choices they made and the choices that were made for them. A story about bravery, memory and the small, yet consequential, moments that define our lives, and the endless stream of loss that in time comes for us all. It's ultimately about how love endures and the feeling of being known by another, even for a short period of time.

Please join us for this discussion on November 15th. On your way to the Leadership Room, stop by the Hospitality Room for coffee and goodies so you'll be fortified for an engaging conversation of *Whistler*.

For those of you who want to read ahead, our next book in January, 2027 will be *Kin* by Tayari Jones.

Here is a brief synopsis:

Vernice and Annie, two motherless daughters raised in Honeysuckle, LA have been best friends and neighbors since childhood but are fated to live starkly different lives. Vernice leaves Honeysuckle at eighteen having been raised by a fierce aunt after her mother's death. She goes to Spellman College where she joins a sisterhood of powerfully connected Black women and discovers a world of affluence, manners, aspiration and inequality. Annie, abandoned by her mother as a child and fixated on the idea of finding her, sets off on a journey that will take her into a world of peril and adversity, as well as love and adventure, culminating in a battle for her life.

This book is about mothers and daughters, friendship and sisterhood, and the complexities of being a woman in the American South.

See you on November 15th for *Whistler*!



2027 Financial Stewardship Theme takes us from Living Generously and Loving Boldly to Give Freely and Joyfully.

If you are struggling to balance your home budget or the realities of ever-increasing costs, help is available. A new free resource is available to help you walk through and develop a plan to lessen the stress.

Money Canvas is a free coaching program from Thrivent, a not-for-profit organization. It was created to help you build confidence with your money - no account linking, no sales pitch, and no pressure to use any other services. To learn more, check out this link:

<https://www.thrivent.com/generosity/money-canvas>



Thank you
We Reached and Exceeded our Goal!!!

Our 40th Anniversary \$40,000 Mission Challenge Appeal to support Crossroads Lutheran Church in San Tan Valley and First Evangelical Lutheran in Mesa stands at \$41,550!



Continuing the Love of Christ
Endowment News

Three financial planners were asked what's one 'quiet' risk people forget to plan for-and what's a first step to address it?

"Many people neglect to create or update estate legal documents. Those who have them, often think it's a one-and-done task. Once estate documents are made, they should be reviewed by a legal professional every 10 years or whenever significant life changes have occurred, such as a marriage, birth, death, or change of residency."

"Waiting is a 'quiet' risk we all like to take. We tell ourselves we'll act when things are more settled, more certain, more 'in place.' But waiting can cost us growth, flexibility, and opportunities. Even if the first step feels small or imperfect, starting your plan today builds momentum, and momentum creates choices for tomorrow."

"Required Minimum Distributions" (RMDs) are the IRS's sneaky way of creating tax revenue off your retirement assets. Without planning, RMDs can push you into higher tax brackets, reduce deductions, and increase Medicare premiums. Planning early enables gradual, tax efficient moves. Later, strategies like Roth conversions, wealth transfer strategies and longevity planning can help defuse the accumulated "tax time bomb".

To learn more about this Fund: <https://loveofchristchurch.net/endowment>

Please join us in upcoming Sleep in Heavenly Peace bed deliveries....

Kids without beds....This is a need in many communities that I was not even aware existed—it is something most of us have not experienced and were not even aware of the need.

But Sleep in Heavenly Peace here in Phoenix has been hard at work to make sure that “No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in Our Town!” and has delivered over 11,000 beds in the valley in the last 7 years.

There is nothing quite like seeing the joy of a child who is receiving a bed, complete with mattress, pillow, bedding, stuffed toy and book. Come and experience this for yourself and help give a child a safe place to sleep and call their own.

We help deliver beds on the 3rd Saturday of the month from the East Valley hub located at St Luke Lutheran Church in Mesa. It's a half day of your time, with a fun group of folks committed to making children in our community a priority. It's easy to bring the beds and assemble them and make them up with handmade quilts, fleece blankets, sheets and stuffies - all tools are provided and there is easy hands-on instruction for beginners. We are also so grateful for the many donors of blankets, sheets, stuffies and books.

If you would like to get involved, text or call JoAnn Grant at 571-334-5028





Subject: Come Enjoy Coffee Fellowship with Us!

Dear Members of Love of Christ, Enjoy a friendly time of coffee, conversation, and fellowship with fellow Love of Christ members on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

We meet at 10:00 AM in the Superstition Springs Mall food court near the carousel. Coffee is available at Cinnabon, and cold beverage options are available nearby. It is a wonderful opportunity to visit, laugh, catch up, and strengthen friendships within our church family. We would be delighted to have you join us! If you have any questions, please contact Eunice Ketterling at 701-871-1445.

Best regards, Eunice Ketterling

Music Notes....



Please contact Jung Lee at: jungmusic@locic.org for how you can be involved with the music program.

Choir practice on Thursdays, 6PM to 8PM in Sanctuary.

With gratitude and excitement,

Jung Lee



Calling All Bakers

Cookie Ministry is looking for people who like to bake. The Cookie Ministry is part of the Faith in Action programs at Love of Christ. This ministry makes cookies for our various events that are held here on our campus and beyond our campus. If you are interested in baking cookies for this ministry, please contact: Eunice Ketterling at ketts14az@gmail.com



Community Garden News

Think about trying out a garden in the fall. We are all learning new things and getting to know new people in the fresh air.

Contact Nancy. Dntoll74@gmail.com



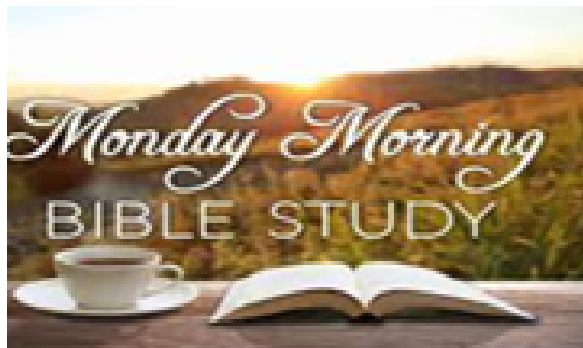
Naomi Circle will meet on: November 9th, at 1PM in the Fellowship Hall.
All women are welcome—invite your friends!



Monday Men's Bible Study on 2nd Corinthians at 6:30-7:30AM in the Leadership Room. Men of all ages are welcome to participate.



Online Video introductions provided by our pastors of Sunday Lectionary readings are offered each week. They may be found on Facebook, YouTube or loveofchristchurch.net



**Monday Morning Bible Study in the Leadership Room
Coffee Fellowship at 10:30AM, Bible Study at 11AM**



Prayer Share Care Women's Bible Study

All women are invited to a weekly Bible study group called Prayer Share Care.

This group meets on Thursday afternoons at 1:00 PM in the Leadership Room.

Please contact Ruth Leonard or Margrit Aeschbach at the following emails for more information:

Margrit: mswiss43@gmail.com and Ruth: rutholeonard@icloud.com



Youth will be meeting on Sundays for Sunday Morning Hangout from 10:00am to 12:00pm

Contact Mason Weatherly at: masonw@locic.org



Confirmation

Confirmation will meet on Wed. October 28th, from 6:00-7:00 pm



Grades 4,5, and 6 will meet on Sunday, November 15th, 3:30-5:00 pm.

Please contact:

Laura Ontiveros (laurakuegemann@gmail.com) for more information.

Save the Dates

Children and Youth Ministry Fall Overview for 2026

Children's Musical Rehearsal every Wednesday at 6:00 pm

Light dinner at 5:30 for anyone.

Grades 4,5,6 meet Sunday, November 15, 3:30-5:00 pm in the CoC

Sunday School Every Sunday in Godly Play Room

Youth Sunday Hangout at 10:00am in the Youth Room

Confirmation Every Wednesday (6:00pm-7:00pm)



Sunday School is offered for ages pre-K-6th grade. Sunday School takes place in the Godly Playroom. Children come to church with their parents and are dismissed for Sunday School after the Children's Message. They return to worship during Communion. For families that attend 10:30 church, Sunday School is offered at 10:00 -10:25 in the Godly Playroom. For any questions, please contact Pastor Nanette at: nanette@locic.org

Service Opportunities - Save the Date!

November: Feed My Starving Children: Nov. 5,6, and 7; Gift cards for food banks to purchase turkeys and canned food donations

December: Gifts for kids; Reverse Advent Boxes; and Family Promise

Ongoing Donations:

Shelf-stable food for Victory Food Bank and First Evangelical Food Bank;

Sleep In Heavenly Peace: Twin Bed Sheets

Ways to give to our World, State, and Local Ministries in November and December

Feed My Starving Children Event November 5,6,7 Be sure to sign up and help pack food for children around the world.

November 1-November 20 Grocery store gift cards for local LSS-SW food banks (Cards and money donations will be split evenly between First Evangelical Food Bank and Victory Food Bank) The food banks are asking for \$25 gift cards so the receivers can buy a Turkey with them.

ELCA Good Gifts: A wonderful opportunity to give a gift of an animal to people around the world. (Nov. 22-Dec. 20)

Target Gift Cards for Christmas Gifts for Local Families (Nov. 8-29)

Advent Reverse Boxes: The boxes, along with a list of things needed, will be passed out on the First Sunday of Advent (Nov. 29) Filled boxes are to be returned on the following Sundays, Dec. 20, Dec. 27, and January 3. These boxes of food will help replenish the LSS-SW First Evangelical and Victory Food Banks.

Family Promise will be here from Dec. 27-Jan. 3.



Feed My Starving Children: There is still time to sign up for Nov. 5, 6, and 7
To learn more about the mobile packing events click on the link below.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EPWlQ7MdQmk>
To sign up through our website, go to: www.loveofchristchurch.net

Lutheran Advocacy Ministry of Arizona

What does our Lutheran faith have to do with government, elections, public policy and political participation?

The Lutheran Advocacy Ministry of Arizona (LAMA) is a ministry of the ELCA and the Grand Canyon Synod. Love of Christ has been a faithful LAMA supporter and the group reminds us that Christians are called to take responsibility for the good of all through civic participation. As midterm elections draw near, Arizona voters are being asked to vote on ballot measures that can change state law or amend the Arizona Constitution. These measures may look short on the ballot, but their effects can be long-lasting. Some are technical. Some are controversial. Some sound simple but include details that matter deeply for our neighbors, schools, communities and public life.

That's why LAMA has prepared a 2026 Arizona Proposition Voter Guide. To be clear, this is only a guide to Arizona ballot propositions, not candidates. Click on the link below to find a simple explanation of each proposition, a LAMA voting recommendation, and a detailed statement on the LAMA position on each proposition.

<https://lamaz.org/news-blog/introducing-lamas-2026-voter-guide>

**If you'd like to be more engaged in our LAMA efforts, please contact our liaison person,
Jim Melzer at: jmelzer@comcast.net.**

For more information on LAMA, please go to our website at this link: LAMAz.org.

Opportunities to Share the Love of Christ

“Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” — Matthew 25:40

As we enter November and December, we are reminded that generosity is one of the beautiful ways we live out our faith. In Matthew 25, Jesus reminds us that when we feed the hungry, clothe those in need, and care for our neighbors, we are serving Christ himself. Generosity is more than what we give; it is about sharing God's love with others.

This holiday season, Love of Christ's Faith in Action Team is offering several opportunities to make a difference in the lives of others, both locally and around the world.

You may donate online as well by going to our website!

Grocery Gift Cards (November 1st–20th) Please place in offering plate.

Our local food banks need \$25 grocery store gift cards to distribute alongside their food boxes. These gifts allow families to purchase additional food and necessities.

Christmas Gifts for Neighborhood Families (Collecting Target Gift Cards Nov. 8-29) Please place in the offering plates.

Once again, we are partnering with two local elementary schools to provide clothing, shoes, and Christmas toys for families in need. Our youth will do the shopping using donated Target gift cards. The schools have expressed their gratitude for Love of Christ's generosity in past years. What a wonderful way to share Christmas joy!



ELCA Good Gifts (November 20–December 13)

Looking for a meaningful gift for someone who is difficult to buy for? Through ELCA Good Gifts, you can purchase a goat, chickens, or other animals in someone's honor, helping families around the world build a better future. Visit our ELCA Good Gifts table to learn more! Or go to their website by clicking this link: <https://goodgifts.elca.org/>

Reverse Advent Boxes (Please return by December 20, 27, and January 3)

This Advent, instead of opening something each day, consider giving something! Pick up a Reverse Advent Box with an attached list of needed items and fill it for our partner food banks, Victory and First Evangelical Mesa. Filled boxes will be collected to help replenish food bank shelves following the holidays.

Generosity Is Faith in Action!

A pair of shoes, a Christmas toy, a grocery gift card, or a box of food may seem like a small gesture, but to someone in need, it can make an enormous difference.

Thank you, Love of Christ, for your generous hearts! In a season when so many are experiencing hardship, your compassion reminds us that we are Called, Gathered, and Sent to share the Love of Christ.



Women's Monthly Bible Study will meet again on Wednesday, November 4th from 4:30-5:30 pm in Fellowship hall. The study will be on Ephesians.

No homework. One hour. Enjoy great discussions. All are welcome.
Barb Talmage and Pastor Nanette

Next Dates: Dec 2, Jan 6, Feb 3, No March (lent) and April 7th.



Grand Canyon Women of the ELCA Retreat is only 3 weeks away. Have you signed up yet? Please go to the website to register by October 30th. ~

<https://grandcanyonwomen.org/events/#page-content> ~ Don't miss out on a spiritually and engaging day with ladies from all over Arizona, Utah, and Nevada.



Young Adults will meet on Sunday November 8 in the CoC parking lot at 4:30. We will be carpooling to the Vesper and Jazz service at Mt. of Olive Lutheran Church.

If you have questions, please contact Pastor Nanette at: nanette@locic.org

BLANKETS FOR KIDS!!!



Questions? Contact Jan Barnett at: barnett105@gmail.com

- 2 Methods of finishing the edges of the blankets
- Sewing around the edges
- Crocheting around the edges
- Both methods start the same

Lay Fabric on a table, trim off the Salvage edges of the fleece;

Sewing around the edges

Fold $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 inch around the edge;

Pin the folded edges all around the edge;

Choose a decorative stitch on sewing machine and start sewing

If your machine only does Zig Zag, that is great also.

- Optional--Baste $\frac{3}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of fold around the edge of the fleece with a needle and thread (Optional)

OR

- Just fold the fabric over about $\frac{3}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch and cut very small slits in the fold;
- Slits should be no more than $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch in length and around $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{5}{8}$ inch from the each other

- If you basted around the edge
- Remove the basting from the fleece
- If you have a rotary cutter, you can purchase wheels that will cut the slits in the fleece material the same distance and the slit created is large enough to slip the crochet hook through. Then follow the remaining directions.

- If you just folded and cut the slits;

Start crocheting around the edge. (I start 6 or 7 inches from the corner of the fleece to make turning the first corner easier.)

1. Start by creating a slipknot.
2. Insert the crochet hook through a slit in the fleece and pull the loop of the slip knot through;
3. Chain 3 times (create a chain by yarning over the hook and pulling it back through the initial loop.); chain only 2 times if you have used the rotary cutter;
4. Push the crochet hook through the slit next to the one just used (back to front) and pull a loop back through the slit. (You will have 2 loops on the crochet hook.)
5. With the 2 loops still on the hook, yarn over the hook and pull through both loops. Now chain 2 more times.
6. Proceed around the fleece using steps 4 and 5.
7. To turn a corner, follow steps 4 and 5, but insert the hook again in the same slit and do 1 chain and then insert the hook again and perform steps 4 and 5, Then you should be on a new side of the blanket and proceed following steps 4 and 5

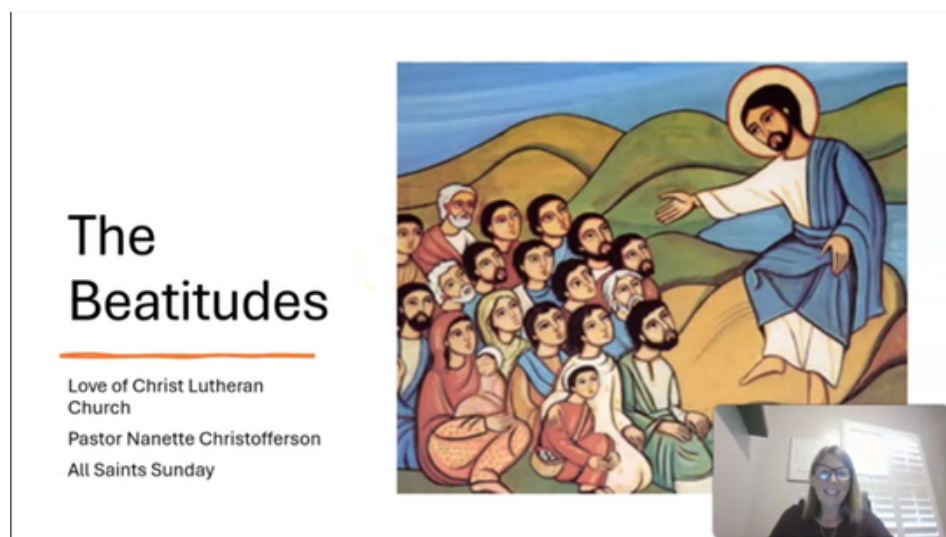
There is an additional set of slides which have instructions on how to start crocheting. If you do not need those instructions, ignore.

Scripture Lesson
A Brief Look at Revelation 7:9-17
with Pastor Nanette Christofferson
(12 min)



YouTube: <https://youtube/0RmiiYkEkFo>
Facebook: <https://facebook.com/reel/1496919862278997/>
Website: <https://www.loveofchristchurch.net/media/series/7vjwfnk/bible-lessons>

Scripture Lesson
A Brief Look at Matthew 5:1-12
with Pastor Nanette Christofferson
(11 min)



YouTube: <https://youtube/z6uXztIXjU4>
Facebook: <https://facebook.com/reel/29027697100180552/>
Website: <https://www.loveofchristchurch.net/media/series/7vjwfnk/bible-lessons>



Pastor Nanette Christofferson “Blessed Are Those Who Mourn”

Revelation 7:9-17

The Multitude from Every Nation

9 After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. **10** They cried out in a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!”

11 And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, **12** singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” **14** I said to him, “Sir, you are the one who knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

15 For this reason they are before the throne of God and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

16 They will hunger no more and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat,

17 for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

1 John 3:1-3

3 1 See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. **2** Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he [a] is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. **3** And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Matthew 5:1-12

The Beatitudes

5 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.

2 And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

5 “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

6 “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

7 “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

8 “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

9 “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

10 “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.