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"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."

-Psalm 19:1 (NIV)

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

"As Lutherans, we believe that God is deeply present in the ordinary rhythms of our lives—and that includes the simple act of walking. This week, we begin our journey with a focus on wonder: pausing long enough to notice God's handiwork in the world around us.

In the Lutheran tradition, we speak of vocation as God working through us in daily life. But sometimes, we also need to let creation speak to us. The psalmist reminds us that all of creation testifies to God's glory—not with words, but through beauty, order, and presence. Wonder opens us to receive that testimony.

Jesus walked constantly—from Galilee to Jerusalem and back again. Along the way, He noticed the lilies of the field, the birds of the air, the mustard seed and the fig tree. He used these everyday observations to teach about God's reign. As followers of Christ, we're invited to pay attention to the world around us, trusting that God speaks not only through Scripture, but also through the world God lovingly made.

Let this week be one of slowing down and tuning in—because wonder is a doorway to faith, gratitude, and renewed relationship with our Creator.



- Where do you most experience the presence of God in creation?
- How might seeing the world with wonder reshape your prayers?
- In what ways has the beauty of creation ever brought you comfort, joy, or clarity?

FAITH IN MOTION ACTIVITY

Wonder Walk Scavenger Hunt

As you walk this week—whether it's around your neighborhood, through a park, or along a church path—use this simple list to guide your attention. Look for:

- Something that reflects light
- Something you've never noticed before
- Something that makes sound
- Something growing
- Something created by human hands
- Something that makes you smile

Pause with each discovery and offer a short prayer of thanks. If you're comfortable, take a photo or jot a note in a journal to reflect on what God might be showing you through these simple signs.



CLOSING PRAYER

God of creation, thank You for the beauty that surrounds us. Open my eyes to see with wonder and my heart to recognize Your grace in everyday places. As I walk this week, may I be reminded that I walk with You—my Sustainer, Redeemer, and Guide. In Jesus' name, Amen.



"The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore."

-Psalm 121:8 (NIV)

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT



There's something sacred about a road trip. Whether you're traveling across the country or simply taking a long drive to clear your head, the open road has a way of stirring up reflection. You leave something familiar behind and set your sights on what's ahead—much like the journey of faith.

In the ELCA, we speak of God's presence not as something we have to seek far and wide, but as a promise that goes with us. Psalm 121 is a pilgrim song, sung by those traveling toward Jerusalem. It reminds us that we do not journey alone: "The Lord will watch over your coming and going." Whether we're confident or uncertain, well-planned or feeling lost, God travels with us.

Faith is rarely a straight road. Detours, rest stops, and even breakdowns are part of the trip. But every stretch of the road has something to teach us—about God, ourselves, and the people around us.

This week, reflect on the metaphor of the road trip. What have you left behind? What are you heading toward? What have you seen along the way?

- Think of a time when a journey—literal or spiritual—changed you. What did you learn?
- What do you feel God may be inviting you to leave behind or move toward right now?
- How does knowing God is with you "in the going" offer you comfort or courage?

FAITH IN MOTION ACTIVITY



Dashboard Devotion

Take a short drive (or even a walk if driving isn't an option). As you move, reflect on your spiritual journey so far.

Before you begin, say a simple prayer: "God, help me reflect on where I've been and where You're calling me to qo."

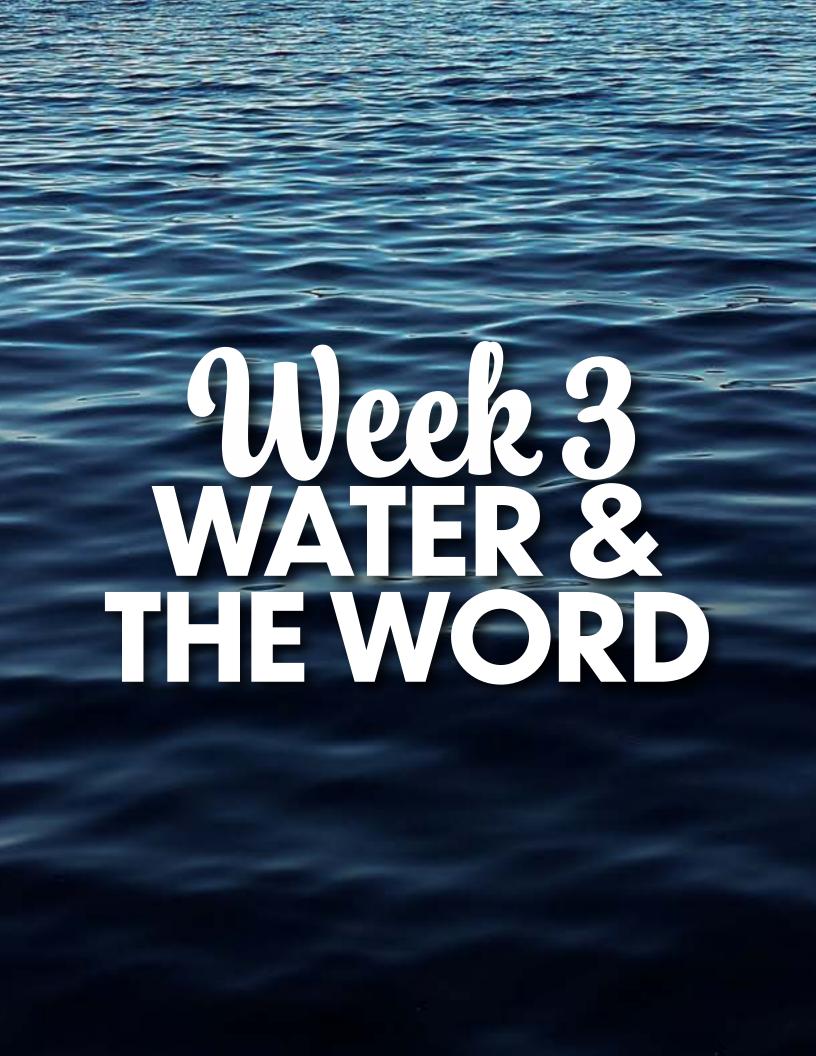
As you travel:

- Watch for road signs and reflect on how they might relate to your life (e.g., "Yield," "Detour," "Rest Area").
- Think about your life's "road map"—what routes have you taken that led to unexpected places?
- Consider who travels with you—in life, in faith, in community.

Optional: When you arrive home or stop, jot down 3 reflections from your journey or share them with someone you trust.

CLOSING PRAYER

God of the journey, thank You for being with me in every mile—when the road is smooth and when it's rough. As I travel through this week, help me reflect on where You've led me and where You're calling me next. Guide my heart, steady my steps, and help me trust in Your constant presence. Amen.



"But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

-Amos 5:24 (NRSV)

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

Water is one of the most powerful and essential symbols in Scripture—and in our Lutheran tradition. From the waters of creation to the parting of the Red Sea, to the waters of baptism where we are named and claimed by God, water carries deep meaning. It cleanses, renews, and reminds.

In the ELCA, we affirm that in the waters of baptism, we are joined to Christ's death and resurrection. We are called into a life of discipleship, rooted in grace and empowered to work for justice in the world. The prophet Amos gives us a stirring image: justice like rolling waters, righteousness like a flowing stream. It's a reminder that God's Word doesn't just inform—it transforms.

This week, reflect on water not only as something that refreshes and sustains your body, but also as something that shapes your spiritual identity. How are the waters of your baptism still moving in your life today?



- When have you felt spiritually refreshed or renewed like being washed in cool water?
- How does your baptism shape the way you live, love, and serve today?
- In what areas of your life—or the world—do you long to see justice flow like water?

FAITH IN MOTION ACTIVITY

Baptism Reminders Walk

Take a short walk near water—a stream, lake, fountain, or even your garden hose. As you walk:

- Reflect on your baptism. If you don't remember it, think about what baptism means to you now.
- Touch the water, if possible, and make the sign of the cross on your forehead.
- Recite or meditate on this phrase: "I am God's child, sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever."

Optional: Fill a small jar with water from your walk and place it somewhere you'll see it during the week. Let it remind you of God's promises and your calling to live out your baptism in the world.



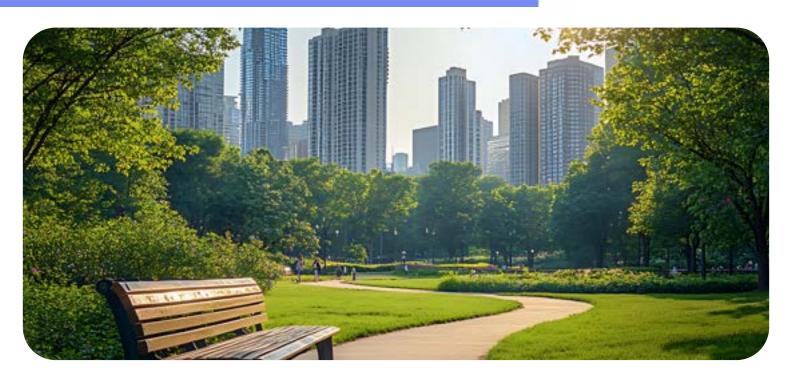
CLOSING PRAYER

God of Living Water, thank You for claiming me through the waters of baptism and for quenching my thirst with Your Word. Help me live as one who is washed and sent—called to love, to serve, and to let Your justice flow through my life. In Jesus' name, Amen.



"But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed." –Luke 5:16 (NIV)

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT



We often think of sacred spaces as sanctuaries, chapels, or quiet pews—but Jesus shows us that sacred space can be found anywhere. The Gospels tell us that Jesus frequently withdrew from the crowds to pray in the wilderness, on mountaintops, or by the sea. His sacred space was not fixed—it moved with Him.

As Lutherans, we believe that God meets us in ordinary places. Because of Christ's presence in the world, everywhere can become holy ground: a kitchen table, a front porch, a hospital room, a park bench. What makes a space sacred is not how quiet or beautiful it is—but that we enter it intentionally, seeking to be with God.

This week invites us to pause and create space—anywhere—for prayer, stillness, and connection with the Holy. Whether you're at home, at work, or on the move, God is already there, waiting to meet you.

- Where do you most naturally feel connected to God? What makes that place feel sacred?
- How might you "carry" a sacred mindset into busy or stressful environments?
- What simple rituals (lighting a candle, saying a breath prayer, playing music) help you focus on God's presence?

FAITH IN MOTION ACTIVITY



Pop-Up Prayer Space

Choose a place you don't normally consider sacred—a picnic table, park bench, office chair, or even the seat of your car. Take 5–10 minutes to transform that space into a place of intentional prayer.

Here's how:

- Sit, breathe deeply, and invite God's presence.
- Use a simple phrase or breath prayer (like "Come, Lord Jesus" or "Here I am, Lord").
- Notice your surroundings and thank God for being present right there.
- If possible, return to that space throughout the week for short moments of prayer or reflection.

Optional: Create a small "portable altar" in your bag or car—a cross, small candle, or meaningful object to help you recognize sacred space wherever you go.

CLOSING PRAYER

God of all places, thank You for meeting me wherever I am. Open my heart to see the sacred in the ordinary, and help me create space for You in the midst of my daily life. Let every place I go become a place of prayer and presence. In Jesus' name, Amen.



"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

-Matthew 11:28 (NRSV)

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

In a world that constantly pushes us to do more, move faster, and fill every moment, rest can feel like a luxury—or even a weakness. But in the rhythm of our faith, rest is not just permission—it's a commandment, a gift, and a sacred act of trust.

Jesus not only taught about rest; He practiced it. He stepped away from crowds, paused in prayer, and invited others to come to Him for restoration. As Lutherans, we affirm that we are saved by grace, not by our productivity. God doesn't love us more for how much we accomplish. Rest reminds us that we are already enough in God's eyes.

Sabbath rest isn't just about stopping. It's about making space—to breathe, to reflect, to reconnect with God and self. This week, let's reclaim the spiritual practice of rest as a holy pause that renews our bodies, minds, and spirits.



- How do you currently view rest? Is it something you protect, or something you avoid?
- When have you felt most spiritually refreshed?
- What would it look like to honor rest as part of your walk with God?

FAITH IN MOTION ACTIVITY

Sabbath Snapshot

Pick one block of time this week—a few hours or even 30 minutes—to rest on purpose. Choose something that restores you: a nap, a slow walk, reading Scripture, listening to music, or sitting quietly with a cup of tea.

Before you begin, say a simple prayer: "God, I receive this time of rest as a gift from You."

When your time ends, reflect:

- How do I feel physically? Emotionally? Spiritually?
- What did I notice or hear in the stillness?
- How might I make space for this kind of pause more regularly?

Optional: Take a photo or journal about your Sabbath moment to remember what rest can look like in your daily life.



CLOSING PRAYER

God of peace, thank You for calling me to rest. Help me to release my need to prove or perform, and instead receive the grace of simply being with You. Let my moments of stillness renew me to love and serve with joy. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Week 6 KINDNESSON THEGO

"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you."

—Ephesians 4:32 (NRSV)

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT



Kindness doesn't require perfect timing, the right words, or a grand gesture. In fact, some of the most meaningful acts of kindness are small, spontaneous, and deeply human—offered while we're "on the go." Whether it's a smile, a helping hand, or a word of encouragement, kindness has the power to interrupt someone's day with grace.

As Lutherans, we believe that kindness is a fruit of the Spirit—evidence of God's love working in and through us. We don't practice kindness to earn favor or look good; we do it because God has already poured out immeasurable grace on us. Every kind act is a reflection of Christ's compassion in the world.

Jesus consistently showed kindness in passing—while walking, teaching, healing, or even being interrupted. Kindness wasn't something He added to His journey; it was the journey. This week, let's carry kindness with us wherever we go and look for ways to embody God's love in simple, practical ways.

- Who has shown you unexpected kindness that made a lasting impact?
- How does God's kindness toward you shape the way you interact with others?
- What holds you back from offering kindness more freely?

FAITH IN MOTION ACTIVITY



Pocket Kindness Challenge

Choose one intentional act of kindness to offer each day this week while you're out and about. Keep it simple and heartfelt. Here are a few ideas:

- Compliment a stranger
- Hold the door open for someone
- Leave a generous tip
- Let someone go ahead of you in line
- Write a note of encouragement and leave it on a car or bench
- Text someone just to say you're thankful for them

Optional: Carry a small token in your pocket (a smooth stone, cross, or coin). Each time you feel it, let it be a reminder to offer kindness in that moment.

CLOSING PRAYER

Loving God, thank You for Your endless kindness toward me. Help me to move through this week with a heart open to others. Let my words, actions, and presence reflect Your grace in the everyday places I go. In Christ's name, Amen.



"God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

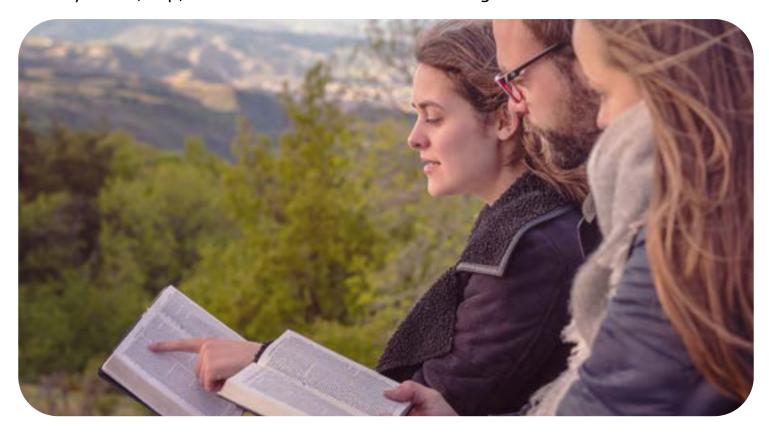
-John 4:24 (NRSV)

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

Worship is not confined to a building or a specific hour on Sunday—it's a way of life. Jesus' words to the Samaritan woman at the well remind us that true worship isn't tied to place, but to presence: God's presence with us, and our openness to meet God wherever we are.

As ELCA Lutherans, we cherish the liturgy, sacraments, and community worship—but we also know that God meets us in everyday moments. When we pause to pray in the car, sing in the kitchen, give thanks on a hike, or serve with compassion, we are worshipping. Worship happens whenever we turn our hearts toward God with gratitude, reverence, or awe.

This week, remember: you don't have to go to worship—you can bring worship into everything you do. Every breath, step, and act of love can become an offering to God.



- Where outside of church have you most deeply experienced the presence of God?
- What helps you shift your mindset from routine to reverence?
- How might your daily actions become acts of worship?

FAITH IN MOTION ACTIVITY

Worship Where You Are Challenge

Pick a moment this week to pause—right in the middle of your day—and offer a spontaneous act of worship. Try one of the following (or create your own):

- Speak or sing a favorite hymn verse
- · Whisper a prayer of praise while walking
- Take three deep breaths, giving thanks for each one
- Look up at the sky and acknowledge God's glory
- Light a candle at home and sit in silence for five minutes

Optional: Keep a small notecard with you that says "Worship Whenever" as a reminder to center your spirit throughout the day.



CLOSING PRAYER

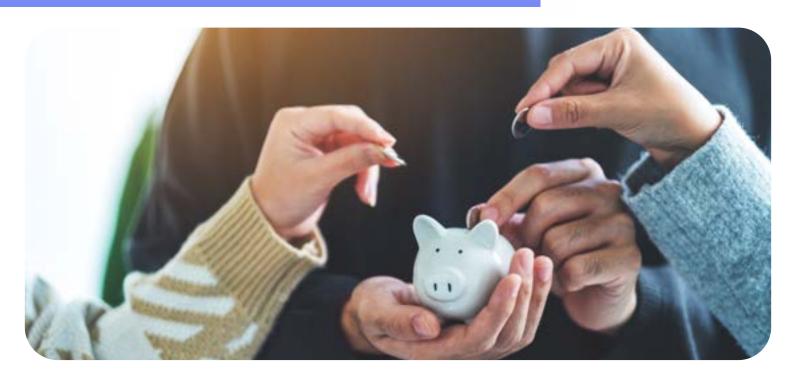
God of every moment, thank You for meeting me wherever I am. Open my heart to worship You—not just on Sundays, but in the ordinary, beautiful spaces of daily life. Teach me to live with reverence, to pause with purpose, and to glorify You in all that I do. In Jesus' name, Amen.



"You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us."

—2 Corinthians 9:11 (NRSV)

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT



Giving isn't limited to a pledge card or offering plate—it's a way of life. As we move through our days, we're constantly given opportunities to be generous with what we have: time, presence, energy, encouragement, or resources. Giving on the go is about living open-handed, ready to bless others in the same spirit of generosity we've received from God.

In the ELCA, we affirm that giving is part of our response to grace—not something we do to earn God's favor, but a reflection of the love already poured out for us. God gives freely and abundantly, and we are invited to reflect that generosity in ways both big and small.

This week, pay attention to the needs around you. Is there someone who could use a word of encouragement, a helping hand, or a simple gesture of kindness? Giving doesn't have to be elaborate—it just has to be willing.

- When has someone's simple act of generosity made a difference in your life?
- What resources (time, gifts, compassion) do you carry with you that you could offer others this week?
- · How does giving "on the go" connect you more deeply to your faith?

FAITH IN MOTION ACTIVITY



Travel Light, Give Big Mini Declutter Mission As you go through your week, take one small bag (a tote, backpack, or box) and commit to filling it with things you can give away. These could be:

- A gently used item someone else could use
- Non-perishable food for a local pantry
- Extra hygiene products or travel-sized toiletries for a shelter
- A note of encouragement or a devotional to pass along

Once your bag is filled, prayerfully decide where it should go—whether it's a neighbor, a local outreach ministry, a blessing box, or someone in your community who might need it. Giving doesn't always mean spending more—it can mean releasing what you already have.

CLOSING PRAYER

Generous God, thank You for every good gift You've placed in my hands. Teach me to give freely, joyfully, and attentively. Let my generosity be a sign of Your love and a spark of hope to those I encounter this week. In Jesus' name, Amen..



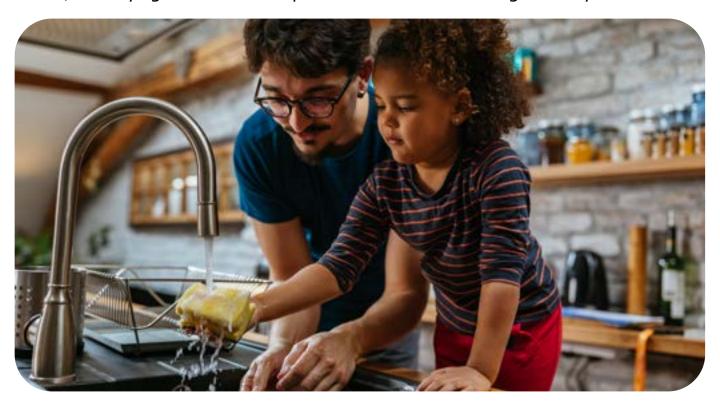
"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." —1 Thessalonians 5:16–18 (NRSV)

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

When we think of prayer, we often imagine bowed heads, folded hands, and closed eyes. But what if prayer didn't require stillness or silence? What if we could pray with our eyes wide opennot just to the presence of God, but to the people and needs around us?

In 1 Thessalonians, Paul urges the early church to "pray without ceasing." That doesn't mean stopping everything we do to pray, but rather inviting God into everything we do. As ELCA Lutherans, we believe that God is present in all aspects of daily life. That means prayer can happen on a walk, while washing dishes, driving, or waiting in line—any time we intentionally turn our attention toward God.

Praying with our eyes open is about awareness: seeing the world as God sees it, lifting up others in real time, and staying rooted in God's presence as we move through our day.



- What does "praying without ceasing" mean to you?
- Where in your daily life do you most easily connect with God?
- Who or what have your eyes been opened to lately that might need prayer?

FAITH IN MOTION ACTIVITY

Prayer Walk with Eyes Open

Take a walk through your neighborhood, a park, or your church grounds—but instead of walking for exercise, walk as prayer.

As you go, keep your eyes open and your heart attentive. Pray silently (or out loud if you feel comfortable) for what you see:

- A neighbor's house → Pray for those who live there
- A school or playground → Pray for children, teachers, and families
- A local business → Pray for workers and economic justice
- Creation itself → Offer thanks for the beauty of the earth and God's sustaining presence

Optional: Snap a photo of something that stood out to you during your walk and use it as a prayer prompt throughout the week.



CLOSING PRAYER

God who sees and listens, open my eyes to the world around me and open my heart to Your Spirit within it. Help me to carry prayer into the everyday—to lift up, to notice, to respond in love. Let my seeing become praying, and my praying become doing. In Jesus' name, Amen.



"...and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

-Mark 10:44-45 (NRSV)

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT



Service isn't just something we do for others—it's a way of embodying the Gospel. Jesus, the very Son of God, made Himself a servant, showing us that true greatness in God's kingdom is measured not by power, but by humility, compassion, and love in action.

In the ELCA, we talk about faith active in love. We don't serve to earn God's grace—we serve because of it. Service is the natural outflow of a life rooted in Christ. When we lend a hand, listen with empathy, or show up for someone in need, we live out our baptismal calling to "serve all people, following the example of Jesus."

This week, pay attention to the ways your faith can be expressed through action. Serving others isn't limited to big mission trips or formal projects—simple, daily acts of love make a difference.

- When has someone's act of service made you feel seen or cared for?
- How do you see service as an expression of your faith?
- Who around you might need support, encouragement, or help right now?

FAITH IN MOTION ACTIVITY



Serve Someone Today Invitation

Choose one intentional act of service this week that stretches you outside your normal routine.

Consider:

- Delivering a meal to someone who's recovering or lonely
- Offering to babysit for a tired parent
- Cleaning up a shared space at work or in your neighborhood
- Volunteering at a local food pantry or shelter
- Writing a thank-you note to someone who serves behind the scenes

Before and after you serve, take a moment to pray: "God, let this small act be a reflection of Your love. Use me to bless, not to impress. Amen."

Optional: Reflect afterward—how did this act of service affect your own spirit?

CLOSING PRAYER

Servant Christ, thank You for showing me what love looks like in action. Shape my heart to serve without seeking recognition, and help me find joy in giving. May my faith be lived out in how I care for others each day. In Your name, Amen.



"Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!"
—Genesis 28:16 (NRSV)

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

Jacob wasn't in a temple when he encountered God—he was asleep on a rock in the middle of nowhere. Yet when he woke up, he declared the ground beneath him holy. So often, we miss the sacred because we expect it only in special settings or religious rituals. But the truth is, God shows up in kitchens and carpool lines, garden beds and grocery stores. We just need to learn to look.

In the ELCA, we proclaim that God is at work in the ordinary and everyday—through water, bread, wine, community, and calling. The sacred is not something separate from daily life; it's woven into it. Our challenge is not to bring God into the mundane, but to notice that God is already there.

This week, slow down and practice sacred seeing. Look for signs of God's presence not in grand moments, but in the gentle ones that often go unnoticed.



- Where in your daily routine do you most feel connected to God?
- What "ordinary" moments or objects have taken on sacred meaning in your life?
- How might becoming more attentive to God's presence change the way you move through your day?

FAITH IN MOTION ACTIVITY

Everyday Altar Practice

Pick a place or object in your daily life that feels ordinary—a coffee mug, your kitchen sink, your front porch, your steering wheel.

Each day this week, pause when you encounter it and treat it like an altar:

- Say a short prayer of gratitude.
- Reflect on God's presence in that moment.

Ask: What is holy here? What is God doing right now, right where I am?

Optional: Keep a running list of where and when you've noticed God throughout the week—snap photos, jot down words, or sketch what you see.



CLOSING PRAYER

God of everyday wonders, open my eyes to see You in the simple and the ordinary. Let each breath, task, and moment become a reminder of Your presence. May I learn to live with reverence, knowing that all ground can be holy ground. In Jesus' name, Amen.

ONCER 12 SHARE YOUR STORY

"We declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us."

-1 John 1:3 (NRSV)

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT



Your story matters. Not because it's perfect or polished, but because God has been in it every step of the way. When we share our faith stories—whether through words, actions, or simple presence—we invite others into the grace we ourselves have received.

In the ELCA, we believe that every baptized person is called—not only pastors or missionaries, but all of us. We are called to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed. This doesn't mean we have to be eloquent or have all the answers. It simply means being willing to tell others where we've seen God show up in our lives.

As we conclude this Faith on the Move journey, reflect on what has shifted in you over these 12 weeks. What moments surprised you? Where did you meet God? Sharing even a small part of that story might be exactly what someone else needs to hear.

- What part of your faith journey would you most like others to know about?
- Who in your life has shared their story in a way that inspired or encouraged you?
- How can you become more comfortable talking about what God is doing in your life?

FAITH IN MOTION ACTIVITY



Story Starter Sharing Challenge

Choose one of the following ways to share part of your story this week:

- Write a short reflection or social media post about how God has moved in your life lately
- Call or meet with a friend and tell them about a meaningful experience from this devotional series
- Record a short voice memo or video to encourage someone in their faith
- Write a letter or email to a mentor, pastor, or family member and thank them for being part of your journey

Need a prompt? Try:

"One way I've seen God at work in my life is..."
"I used to think ____, but now I see ____."
"Walking with faith has helped me to..."

CLOSING PRAYER

Faithful God, thank You for walking with me these past twelve weeks—and for every mile before and ahead. Help me to be brave in telling my story, knowing that it is really a story of Your love, grace, and presence. Use my voice, my life, and my journey to point others to You. In the name of Jesus, Amen.



ABOUT GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

Located in beautiful Lakeside Park, KY, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church is a vibrant community of faith, part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). At Gloria Dei, we are committed to nurturing spiritually grounded lives shaped by the Gospel of Jesus Christ, marked by grace, compassion, and service. Whether you're seeking a place of worship, community connection, or spiritual growth, you'll find a warm welcome here.

ABOUT FAITH ON THE MOVE

"Faith on the Move" is a twelve-week devotional journey designed to help you experience faith in real-life moments—while walking, working, traveling, or simply living. Grounded in Scripture, rooted in ELCA theology, and filled with practical activities, each week offers a new way to encounter God in everyday places.

Whether you're taking a moment in nature, offering kindness on the go, or sharing your story, this devotional series encourages faithful living whole-heartedly, wherever you are. We hope it brings fresh insight, spiritual nourishment, and a deeper sense of God's presence throughout your day.

Thank you for joining us on this journey. May God continue to guide your steps as you walk faithfully—on the move and always embraced by divine grace.

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