

## **A SPECIAL INVITATION TO HEAR THE TRUTH**

Join us for a course on Christian doctrine...

...weekly in **Las Cruces**, beginning on Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> (9 a.m.), and on Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup> (6 p.m.).

...in **Silver City**, every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, beginning on September 7<sup>th</sup> (2:30 p.m.)

To enroll, or for more information, call Pastor Rydecki at (575) 636-4988, or send an e-mail to [pastor@godwithuslc.org](mailto:pastor@godwithuslc.org).

## **A STANDING INVITATION TO HEAR THE TRUTH**

In Las Cruces...

### Sundays

Bible study, 9 AM    Divine Service, 10:15 AM

### 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month

Vespers, 6:30 PM

In Silver City...

### 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month

Divine Service, 4 PM

**ONLINE** (*see website*)

### **Emmanuel Lutheran Church (ELDoNA)**

4675 Bataan Memorial W.  
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88012

### **Saints Peter & Paul Lutheran Mission (ELDoNA)**

(meeting at StarDancers Studio)  
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Silver City, New Mexico



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member of the Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of  
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# **An Invitation to Know the Truth**



**“If you abide in My word,  
you are truly My disciples, and  
you will know the truth,  
and the truth will set you free”  
(John 8:31-32 – ESV).**

## **HERE IS THE TRUTH**

God is real. God is one. The one God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He created the universe. He created you.

God has revealed Himself to mankind in the Holy Bible. The Bible is reliable. The Bible is true.

God has established His holy Law, the standard of right and wrong. He will give eternal life to those who continually live according to His righteous standard. He will condemn to hell those who sin against it.

You have not lived up to God's righteous standard. You can't. No one can. You're a sinner. You always have been—from the time you were conceived and born.

Sinners will surely die. You will surely die.

God is gracious and merciful. God loves sinners. God loves you. He sent His Son, Jesus the Christ, to save sinners from sin, death, and the devil, not by their own goodness, but by faith in the goodness of Christ.

Jesus the Christ is the Righteous One, true God and true Man. He is merciful, kind and good. He suffered and died for your sins. He rose from the dead. He reigns at the Father's right hand. He will come again in glory. He will raise the dead. He will judge the earth. He invites all men to

repent of their sins and believe in Him for salvation. Whoever believes in Christ is not condemned. Whoever does not believe stands condemned already. This is the Gospel—the good word of salvation by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.

Christ, through the Church, has sent preachers out into the world—His called and ordained ministers. He sends His Holy Spirit to empower their preaching. He has given them authority to forgive and to retain sins in His name.

The Holy Spirit gathers the Church. He works repentance and faith in the sinner's heart. He works through instruments, through Word and Sacrament: the Word of Christ, the pastor's absolution, the washing of Holy Baptism, the Sacrament of Christ's true body and blood. Through these means, He creates and strengthens faith. He forgives sins. He renews believers daily in repentance and love. He strengthens them to bear the cross, so that they may persevere in the faith until the end and receive at last the crown of life.

## **HEARING THE TRUTH**

The truth is that the world is filled with false gods and false religions that cannot save. Salvation is found only in Christ, and only in the Christian Church, where the truth of His Word is proclaimed. But many Christians have been led astray from the

truth, as Jesus said would happen. Most Christian churches have departed from the pure word of Christ and from the true teaching and use of the Sacraments.

The historic Lutheran Church preserved the pure, catholic doctrine received from the apostles, and confessed the same in the Book of Concord of 1580. But most Lutheran churches have now also departed from the purity of their original confession.

Our church is not glorious and impressive by human standards. But we, in communion with the Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of North America (ELDoNA), retain the historic, pure doctrine and practice of the Christian Church, as described in the Lutheran Confessions. The Word of Christ is purely taught and the Sacraments are rightly administered among us. We have the life of Christ and the comfort of His Gospel to give to the world. By God's grace, we have the truth.

The truth is that God wants all people, including you, to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. We invite you to come and hear the truth with us.