



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

"Helping others receive grace, purpose and direction by proclaiming Christ's love."

17 East 27th Street
Scottsbluff, NE
(308) 632-8023
calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org

Sunday Morning Worship
10:00 a.m.
April 25, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Prayer Before Worship: We are your people, O God—the sheep of your pasture, the flock you have gathered. Lead us beside still waters; teach us the way of righteousness; and feed us at your table; through Jesus Christ, our good shepherd. Amen.

(In preparation for our worship together, you are invited to take a moment of silence to offer your own prayers of worship and praise.)

KEY: ELW = Worship hymnal (cranberry)

Congregational responses are printed in **BOLD** type.

A Warm Welcome to all as we gather as God's people to worship our Lord. We pray our worship together would strengthen your faith and desire to know and serve the One who loves us with an everlasting love as made known to us in Jesus Christ.

***Visitors**, if you are worshipping with us in person or online today, we are glad to have you with us. Please join us again soon!*

Prelude Music

Welcome and Announcements

‡WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS‡

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the minister begins.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God,
now and forever. **Amen.**

***Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

***Prayer of the Day**

O Lord Christ,

good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

‡GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO US‡

First Reading: Acts 4:5-12

⁵The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead.

¹¹This Jesus is
'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Second Reading: 1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us — and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation:**

“Open our eyes, Lord”

W&P #113

**Open our eyes, Lord; we want to see Jesus,
To reach out and touch Him, and say that we love Him.
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.**

***Gospel: John 10:11-18**

Response after the announcement of the gospel:

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹¹I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away — and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

Response after the gospel reading:

Praise to you, O Christ.

Kids Sermon

Angie Hinze

Sermon:

Pastor Chris

(Silence for Reflection and Meditation.)

‡WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD‡

***Song of the Day:**

“Have No Fear, Little Flock”

**ELW #764
vv. 1,3&4**

**1. Have no fear, little flock;
have no fear, little flock,
for the Father has chosen
to give you the kingdom;
have no fear, little flock!**

**3. Praise the Lord high above;
praise the Lord high above,
for he stoops down to heal you,
uplift and restore you;
praise the Lord high above!**

**4. Thankful hearts raise to God;
thankful hearts raise to God,
for he stays close beside you,
in all things works with you;
thankful hearts raise to God!**

***Profession of Faith: The Apostles Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***Prayers of the Church:**

W&P #27

(Sung Prayer Response)

**I cast all my cares upon you;
I lay all of my burdens down at your feet.
And anytime that I don't know what to do,
I will cast all my cares upon you.**

***Exchange of Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

***Offertory Prayer**

Having offered ourselves and our gifts to God, let us pray.
**God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive
our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering
world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

†HOLY COMMUNION†

Here our Lord gives to us His own Body and Blood for the forgiveness of all our sins.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

***Words of Institution**

***The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

Invitation to Communion

The risen Christ invites us to this table.
Come, eat and be satisfied.

Distribution of Communion:

Christ is truly present in the Lord's Supper with gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

All are welcome and invited to receive Holy Communion.

*(Communion will be served continuously at one station in the front of the church with the
pulpit side of the church being dismissed first.*

WHITE GRAPE JUICE and GLUTEN FREE WAFERS are available. Just ask the server.

Children who are not yet communicants are invited to come forward for a blessing.)

"Blessings"

Choir

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Post-Communion Prayer**

Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

‡WE DEPART TO SERVE‡

***Benediction**

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life, Father, ‡ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

***Sending Song:**

“Sing a new song”

**W&P #125
vv. 1&2**

Refrain

**Sing a new song unto the Lord;
let your song be sung from mountains high.
Sing a new song unto the Lord,
singing alleluia.**

**1. Yahweh’s people dance for joy;
oh, come before the Lord,
and praise the Lord on glad tambourines,
and let your trumpet sound. *Refrain***

**2. Rise, O children, from your sleep;
your Savior now has come.
The Lord has turned your sorrow to joy,
and filled your soul with song. *Refrain***

***Dismissal**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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✝️ In Our Thoughts and Prayers ✝️

Prayers for healing: **LaDonna Schmidt** (recovering from colon cancer surgery), **Lorene** (cancer – Mike Belgum’s mother), **Deb** (knee replacement surgery—Janet Miller’s sister), **Teigen Brunner** (Healing—Deb Brown’s grandson), **John Rahrs** (heart surgery—Val Rahrs’ dad), **Barb Gorr** (recovering from back surgery), **Syl Holdt** (recovering from knee surgery), **Greta Mehling** (Health Issues), **Ron Wegelin** (health issues), **Shirley Schuldies** (health issues-mainly her heart), **Caleb Payne** (health issues), **Bruce** (Cancer treatments—friend of Jean Collins & Cathy Johnson), **Bill Steele** (Recovering from COVID-19), **Beth Janecek** (Radiation), **Rich** (COVID-19 recovery—brother of Barb Gorr), **Harlan Meyer** (Lonnie Miller’s uncle), **Reuben & Gloria Gorr** (health issues), **Jordan Hein** (cancer treatment—former member of Calvary), **Julie** (cancer treatment—Travis Miller family), **Barb** (cancer—Marlene Downer’s sister-in-law), **Joan** (cancer—niece of Marj Nikont), **Patty** (cancer—Jim Dorn’s sister-in-law).

Prayers of comfort and peace: For the family & friends of **Tim Smith** (Joan Smith’s son, Angie Hinze & Pat Smith’s brother)

Prayers for our church, community, nation, and world: in this time of Covid-19 and general unsettledness. For everyone in need!

Prayer Requests



If you have a prayer request you would like added to the prayers of the people on Sunday morning, during the week you may notify Christy in the church office or let us know by filling out the Attendance and Prayer Request card for those worshipping with us online you will find the form under the worship tab on our website or on Sunday morning inform one of the ushers of your prayer request and they will make a list and give those to the pastor before worship begins.



Barry Bassett, 4/28; Trinita Burgner, 4/28; Wanda Payne, 4/29

If we have missed your birthday, please let the office know. Thanks.



YOUR GIVING ONLINE

Scan the **QR code** to the right, go to our website: www.calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org and click on the **Give Online** button OR download the **Give+Church App** on your smartphone. It's safe and secure.



APRIL FOOD DONATIONS REQUESTED

FOOD PANTRY: Pancake Mix
BACKPACKS: Mac 'n Cheese Bowls
Containers are located outside Fellowship Hall.
Thanks for your generosity.

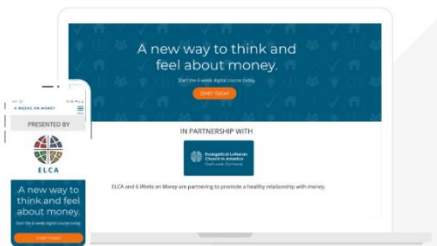


WOMEN OF THE ELCA APRIL MISSION PROJECT:



We encourage every member of Calvary to participate in our monthly Mission Projects. April's project is the Bake-less Bake Sale. Monetary donations may be dropped off at the church office. Mark CLCW Mission Project on the envelop and leave it with, Christy, the Office Manager. Thank you from the Women's Board.

6-week digital course on **faith & money**



Enroll today in a six-week digital course on money and faith. Discover how a grace-filled way of thinking and feeling about money can bring hope and freedom to strengthen our relationship with Jesus and enhance our generosity. Explore money focused on values, agility, options, scarcity, integrity, and giving.

- ✓ Increase Savings
- ✓ Eliminate Debt
- ✓ Live generously

<https://start.sixweeksonmoney.com/courses/ELCA>

Lutheran Family Service Telehealth Mental Health Services Now Available Here at Calvary

2020 has been a stressful year. If you have found the disruption of the holidays the last straw in your ability to cope there is help available through Lutheran Family Services. LFS (Lutheran Family Services) has partnered with several remote sites to provide counseling and other needs through computer teleconferencing (or Telehealth).

If you would like to take advantage of these services, specifically talking with an LFS counselor, come to Calvary and we can help connect you to a counselor! Or go online at www.LFSneb.org. (You can also call LFS directly at 402-441-7940 or 1-833-903-2376.) Be prepared to spend about 15 to 30 minutes doing online paperwork, including your insurance information. Counseling fees will be handled directly through LFS, there is no fee for use of the computer here at Calvary, (it was provided by LFS) or for the use of the private space.

If life has you down, know there is someone to talk to and help you work through any of life's struggles including depression, relationship issues, parenting difficulties, abuse, as well as getting through this pandemic. Starting the process is available anytime on your home computer and scheduling an appt. with a counselor is very flexible on any computer with camera and internet capabilities. If you would like to use the computer here at Calvary or begin the process with assistance through the office, please come Monday through Thursday from 9-3 PM. (Not available Friday or Weekends.) You may also contact us for more information.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastors Chris and Sheryl Kester Beyer

This Sunday – April 25

USHERS: Chris & Barb Jensen

LAY READER: Susan Martin

COMMUNION ASST: Dennis Gorr

POWERPOINT: Shawna Payne

MEDIA: Jeff Van Patten

ALTAR GUILD: Abby Newsom, Maunette Loeks-Van Patten, Barb Jensen, Nannie Walsh

PIANIST: Dee Brady

Next Sunday – May 2

USHERS: Dennis & Barb Gorr

LAY READER: Vicki Howell

COMMUNION ASST: Shari Copsey

POWERPOINT: Mary Jo Huelle

MEDIA: Maunette Loeks-Van Patten

ALTAR GUILD: Deb Brown, Vicki Howell, Tracy Steele, Shari Copsey

ORGANIST: Rhonda Boettcher

SONG LEADER:

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, April 25

10 a.m. – Worship

Monday, April 26

5 p.m. – Parish Ed

Tuesday, April 27

8:30 a.m. – Men's Study @ Calvary's Fellowship Hall

12 p.m. – Women's Study @ Calvary
1 p.m. – Quilting

Wednesday, April 28

6 p.m. – JAM

7 p.m. – Choir Practice

Saturday, May 1

5:30 p.m. – Worship

Sunday, May 2

10 a.m. – Worship

5 p.m. – Epic – Backyard Bible Study @ Hinze's

APRIL 25, 2021
FOURTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER



As Jesus shepherds us, we shepherd one another.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 10:11-18	The Good Shepherd
Monday	Acts 4:5-12	Peter and John before the council
Tuesday	1 John 3:16-24	Love one another
Wednesday	Genesis 49:22-28	Jacob blesses his sons
Thursday	Mark 6:30-44	Jesus the compassionate shepherd
Friday	Ezekiel 34:20-31	God the true shepherd
Saturday	Psalms 23	The Lord is my shepherd
Sunday	John 15:1-8	Jesus the true vine

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. John 10:11 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God, we thank you for pursuing us with your goodness and mercy all the days of our lives through Christ, our Good Shepherd. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Good of abundance, as a shepherd you provide us with daily food; give us the faith and love to care that others have daily food on their tables, too. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May Jesus the Good Shepherd pursue you with goodness and mercy all the days of your life.

APRIL 25, 2021
HYMN OF THE WEEK
*Savior, like a Shepherd
Lead Us*



WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What does a shepherd do?
- What does Jesus do to shepherd us?
- How can we shepherd fellow Christians in the faith and in daily life?

DEVOTIONS

Read: 1 John 3:16-24.

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is known as the Good Shepherd Sunday. John 10 and Psalm 23 give clear attention to this shepherd theme. However, so does 1 John 3. Just as Jesus, as the Good Shepherd, lays down his life for the sheep (John 10:11), so we as brothers and sisters who follow Jesus are to lay down our lives for one another (1 John 3:16). We lay down our lives—we shepherd one another—by loving one another “in truth and action”—not just words (1 John 3:18). We, as fellow shepherds, abide in the Good Shepherd by believing in Jesus Christ and loving one another with our whole being. As we give thanks for Jesus as the Good Shepherd, we also give thanks that we are surrounded by a community of faith that shepherds one another to believe in Jesus Christ and to lay down our lives for one another. Why is it important that Christians not only care for the needs of the world but also care for each other as followers of Jesus Christ?

Pray: Almighty and living God, strengthen us in faith and love to shepherd one another to live with hope and good courage through Christ, the Good Shepherd. Amen.

SERVICE

Be a servant this week by shepherding someone. Make a visit and listen to the person. Read Psalm 23 together. Talk about what it means to have Jesus as our shepherd and close with the Lord's Prayer.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The sheep listen to the voice of the shepherd. There will be one flock, one shepherd. (John 10:16) If there are children in your home, play “Follow the Leader.” Blindfold the followers and have the leader guide them by using only their voice. Think about what it means to listen to Jesus' voice and to follow him as sheep of the Good Shepherd.



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In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org

For a larger printable 'Taking Faith Home' go to our website calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org