



# CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

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

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Scottsbluff, NE  
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**Sunday Morning Worship**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**April 30, 2023**

## Fourth Sunday of Easter

**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 today,  
we are glad to have you with us.

*(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 and any page number = Worship hymnal (cranberry),  
OSB = Other Song Book (red), W&P = Worship & Praise (purple).

\* Indicates please stand if able. Congregational responses are printed in **BOLD** type.

### Prelude Music

### Welcome and Announcements

#### **‡WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS‡**

Opening Hymn:

**"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"**

**ELW #619  
vv. 1,5&8**

**1. I know that my Redeemer lives!  
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!  
He lives, he lives, who once was dead;  
he lives, my ever-living head!**

**5. He lives to bless me with his love;  
he lives to plead for me above;  
he lives my hungry soul to feed;  
he lives to help in time of need.**

**8. He lives, all glory to his name!  
He lives, my Savior, still the same;  
what joy this blest assurance gives:  
I know that my Redeemer lives!**

**\*Confession of Sins/Assurance of Forgiveness**

*(All may make the sign of the cross ✠ the sign marked at baptism, as we begin)*

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*(Silence for reflection and self-examination)*

Most merciful God,

**We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**\*Greeting**

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

**And also with you.**

**\*Glory to God:**

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to God's people on earth.  
**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

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**Lord Jesus Christ,  
only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**\*Prayer of the Day**

O God our shepherd,  
**you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death.  
Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous  
feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who  
lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
Amen.**

**‡GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO US‡**

**First reading: Acts 2:42-47**

<sup>42</sup>They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

<sup>43</sup>Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. <sup>44</sup>All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup>they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup>Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 23

Read Responsively

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.

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

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

<sup>4</sup>**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.**

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

<sup>6</sup>**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 Peter 2:19-25

<sup>19</sup>For it is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup>If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. <sup>21</sup>For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

<sup>22</sup>"He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found in his mouth."

<sup>23</sup>When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. <sup>24</sup>He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup>For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## \*Gospel Verse

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

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**\*Gospel: John 10:1-10**

*Response after the announcement of the gospel:*  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup>So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

*Response after the gospel reading:*  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Kids Sermon:**

**PMA Bill Huelle**

**Sermon:**

**PMA Bill Huelle**

*(Silence for Reflection and Meditation.)*

**‡WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD‡**

**\*Hymn of the Day:**

**"Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"**

**ELW #789  
vv. 1&2**

**1. Savior, like a shepherd lead us;  
much we need your tender care.  
In your pleasant pastures feed us,  
for our use your fold prepare.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have bought us; we are yours.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have bought us; we are yours.**

2. We are yours; in love befriend us,  
be the guardian of our way;  
keep your flock, from sin defend us,  
seek us when we go astray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
hear us children when we pray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
hear us children when we pray.

**\*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:**

*Each petition ends with:*

Hear us, O God ... **Your mercy is great.**

*The prayers conclude:*

....through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen

### **\*Sharing of the Peace**

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

### **Offering**

**Offertory: “Just a Closer Walk”**

**Choir**

### **\*Offering Prayer**

Generous God,  
**in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **‡HOLY COMMUNION & DISMISSAL‡**

*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**

Come and know Christ,  
broken and poured out for you.



## **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 two stations in the front of the church.*

*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.)*

## **Distribution Music**

**Rhonda Boettcher**

### **\*Post-Communion Blessing**

### **\*Post-Communion Prayer**

Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

**‡WE DEPART TO SERVE‡**

### **\*Benediction**

The God of all, who raised ‡ Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

**Amen.**

### **\*Sending Hymn:**

**"The Day of Resurrection!"**

**ELW #361**

**vv. 1&4**

- 1. The day of resurrection!  
Earth, tell it out abroad,  
the passover of gladness,  
the passover of God.  
From death to life eternal,  
from sin's dominion free,  
our Christ has brought us over  
with hymns of victory.**
  
- 4. All praise to God the Father,  
all praise to Christ the Son,  
all praise to God the Spirit,  
eternal Three in One!**

**Let all the ransomed number  
fall down before the throne,  
and honor, pow'r, and glory  
ascribe to God alone!**

### **\*Dismissal**

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Postlude**

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### **In Our Thoughts and Prayers†**

Prayers for healing: **Don Stahla** (Cardiac Issues—Virginia Pickett's brother), **Marsha Bueide** (hospitalized), **Carolyn Jensen** (recovering from knee replacement surgery), **William Gibbs** (Cancer—brother of Larry Gibbs), **Vicki Schmidt** (cancer treatment), **Susan Martin** (recovering from a fall), **Linda Spomer** (healing/pain from broken back), **Perry Crom** (health issues-nephew of Shirlie Schuldies), **Neal Blomenkamp** (recovering from heart surgery), **Catherine Rahrs** (blood clots—Val Rahrs' mother), **Paul Bueide** (recovering), **Patty** (cancer—Jim Dorn's sister-in-law).

Prayers for comfort and peace for: Family and friends of **Caleb Payne**.

Prayers for comfort and safety: **Jeffery Christeleit** (deployed—Brian & Jodi Christeleit's son and Jim & Sheila Miller's grandson).

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Matt Payne, 5/4; Jack Martin, 5/4; Brigitta Loseke, 5/4;  
Larry Sibal, 5/6; Sherry Belgum, 5/7

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



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**Give Online** button OR download the **Vanco Now**  
**App** on your smartphone. It's safe and secure.



## **MAY FOOD DONATIONS REQUESTED**

**FOOD PANTRY:** Oatmeal  
**BACKPACKS:** Pudding Cups  
Containers are located outside Fellowship Hall.  
Thanks for your generosity.



**SULLIVAN HILLS CAMP**

## **CLCW MAY MISSION PROJECT: Sullivan Hills Camp**

This month we are asking your help in sending monetary support to Sullivan Hills Camp which serves campers each summer in Western Nebraska. The camp offers programs for grades 1-12, special needs families, confirmation and also provides a beautiful setting for retreats. Donations may be placed in the tan "*Designated Giving*" envelopes in the pews. Please be sure to mark on them CLCW Project on the envelope.  
Thank you for your support.



### **JAM on Wednesdays from 5:30-7:00 p.m.**

Our Wednesday evening youth group is for kids in kindergarten through 6th grade. We begin with dinner (taco bar with all the fixings) at 5:30 p.m. followed by storytelling, music, crafts, games, and lots of fun until 7 p.m. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Angie at the church.

### **OWLS (Older, Wiser Lutherans) LUNCHEON**

**May 3th @ 12 p.m.**

Cinco de Mayo celebration! Join us for a Mexican fiesta of enchiladas, taco bar, and all the fixings! We will have some entertainment and lots of fun!



### **GRADUATION CELEBRATION-SUNDAY May 7th**



Join us at the worship service at 10 am to honor and celebrate **Trea Hess, Kierra Miller, Hunter Miller, Bailey Nikont, Nickie Todd and Alec Sibal** as they graduate from high school. We will also celebrate college graduates, **Jadie Rother** from UNMC College of Dentistry and **Carl Thorpe** from WNCC.

**Reminder: Scholarship Applications for 2023-2024 are due in the church office June 1, 2023.**



## WORSHIP LEADERS

### This Sunday – April 30

**USHERS:** Deb Brown & Vicki Howell

**LAY READER:** Marissa Wright

**HEAD COMMUNION ASST:** Jack Martin

**COMMUNION ASSTS:** Tracy Steele & Chris Thomas

**POWERPOINT:** Mary Jo Huelle

**ACOLYTES:** Ben Moravec & Max Judy

**MEDIA:** Chris Jensen

**AUDIO:** Jim Dorn

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

**ORGANIST:** Rhonda Boettcher

**COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP:** Barb Jensen

### Next Sunday – May 7

**USHERS:** Monty & Shari Copsey

**LAY READER:** Angie Hinze

**HEAD COMMUNION ASST:** Barb Jensen

**COMMUNION ASSTS:** Rick & Lynn Margheim

**POWERPOINT:** Matt Payne

**ACOLYTES:** Ayden Tompkins & Jacey Cochran

**MEDIA:** Jeff Van Patten

**AUDIO:** Jack Martin

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

**PIANIST:** Dee Brady

**COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP:** *Please sign up!*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Sunday, April 30

10 a.m. – Worship

11 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship in Fellowship Hall

### Monday, May 1

7 p.m. – Hannah Circle @ Beth Janecek's Home

### Tuesday, May 2

12 p.m. – Sarah Study

1 p.m. – Quilting

### Wednesday, May 3

12 p.m. – OWLS Luncheon

5:30 p.m. – JAM

7 p.m. – Choir Practice

### Thursday, May 4

11:30 a.m. – Exec. Meeting

### Saturday, May 6

5:30 p.m. – Worship

### Sunday, May 7

#### ***Graduation Celebration Sunday***

10 a.m. – Worship

11 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship in Fellowship Hall

# APRIL 30, 2023 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



*Jesus the Good Shepherd restores our souls.*

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 10:1-10	Christ the shepherd
Monday	Acts 2:42-47	Life among believers
Tuesday	1 Peter 2:19-25	Example of Christ's suffering
Wednesday	Matthew 11:28-30	Come and rest
Thursday	Psaln 100	The Lord is good
Friday	Colossians 3:15-17	New life in Christ
Saturday	Psaln 23	The Lord is my shepherd
Sunday	John 14:1-14	Jesus is the way, truth, and life

## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.  
Psaln 23:1-3a (NRSV)*

## PRAYERS AND BLESSING

### A Prayer for the Week:

Loving God, you who care for all our needs, help us to trust in your goodness and mercy all the days of our lives through Christ Jesus, our Good Shepherd. Amen.

### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we give you thanks for this food. Help us to receive this gift of life with joy and gladness all our days through Christ Jesus, our Good Shepherd. Amen.

### A Blessing to Give:

May the goodness and mercy of the Good Shepherd follow you all the days of your life.



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# APRIL 30, 2023

## HYMN OF THE WEEK *Shepherd Me, O God*



## 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:

- Describe what a day filled with contentment looks like.
- How does the church, the body of Christ, help you sense God's presence as your shepherd?

## DEVOTIONS

Read: Acts 2:42-47.

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is always the Good Shepherd Sunday. All the readings for that day except Acts 2 use the image of shepherd. However, it is in Acts 2 that the people devote themselves to shepherding one another in the Christian faith. People are brought to homes and tables for food, fellowship, and acceptance (Psalm 23:5). In this intimate fellowship people are taught the faith by hearing the message of the apostles. People learn the faith from trusted voices within the community (John 10:4). They support one another with prayer and generosity. The community serves one another by providing material needs like food, clothing, and shelter. With compassionate hearts people praise God. They gain attention and in so doing, the sheepfold grows, and "The Lord added to their number those who were being saved" (Acts 2:47). The life of the community looks like followers of Jesus, the one who is the "shepherd and guardian" of our souls (1 Peter 2:25).

Discuss: How does the image of shepherd help you understand what it means to be part of the body of Christ?

Pray: Dear Jesus, our Good Shepherd, we thank you for the church, the body of Christ, that cares for one another that we may believe in you and serve others in love. Amen.

## SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how can you serve as a shepherd to someone by showing care and attending to their needs?

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Faith is caught more than it is taught. Learning the faith begins in the home. As you continue to read the Gospel of John during the Easter season, think about what would happen if you "get caught" while reading the Bible when others are present. Consider doing so. This week highlight John 10:10b, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." Read it aloud for someone this week and engage in a conversation about what it means to you to believe in Jesus. Invite that person to join you in saying: Alleluia! Christ is risen. Alleluia!



In addition to Taking Faith Home, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)