



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.
August 22, 2021

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Prayer Before Worship: *“Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”* (John 6:68-69)
Open now our hearts to receive once more, the Bread of Life, who came down from heaven, as we gather to worship and sing praises to our one true God. 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 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.

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.*

Prelude Music

Welcome and Announcements

✠WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS✠

***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. **Amen.**

***Glory to God:**

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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.
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.**

***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**

Living God,

your Son Jesus Christ has the words of eternal life. Grant that we may come to him in faith, follow him in this world, and abide with him forever in the world to come; for he dwells with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

‡GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO US‡

First Reading: Joshua 24:1-2, 14-18

¹Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ²And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors — Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor — lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. ¹⁴Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

¹⁶Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; ¹⁷for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 84

¹How dear to me is your dwelling,
O LORD of hosts!

²**My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**

³Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young, by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my king and my God.

**⁴Happy are they who dwell in your house!
They will always be praising you.**

⁵Happy are the people whose strength is in you,
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

**⁶Those who go through the balsam valley will find it a place of springs,
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.**

⁷They will climb from height to height,
and the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

**⁸LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer;
give ear, O God of Jacob.**

⁹Behold our defender, O God;
and look upon the face of your anointed.

**¹⁰For one day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.
I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God than dwell in the
tents of the wicked.**

¹¹For the LORD God is both sun and shield, bestowing grace and glory;
no good thing will the LORD withhold from those who walk with integrity.

**¹²O LORD of hosts,
happy are they who put their trust in you!**

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 6:10-20

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation:**

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

***Gospel: John 6:56-69**

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

⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." ⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" ⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

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

Kids Sermon:

Angie Hinze

Sermon:

Pastor Sheryl

(Silence for Reflection and Meditation.)

‡WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD‡

***Hymn of the Day: "We Come to You for Healing, Lord"**

**ELW #617
vv. 1,2&5**

**1. We come to you for healing, Lord,
of body, mind, and soul,
and pray that by your Spirit's touch
we may again be whole.**

**2. As once you walked through ancient streets
and reached toward those in pain,
come, risen Christ, among us still
with pow'r to heal again.**

**5. We come to you, O loving Lord,
in our distress and pain,
in trust that through our nights and days
your grace will heal, sustain.**

***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:

Lord, in your mercy....**hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude with:

...through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***Exchange of Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

***Offertory Prayer**

Thank you for continuing to support the work of Christ through Calvary Lutheran. The act of offering is an act of worship, wherever and whenever it is done. Having offered ourselves and our gifts to God, let us pray.

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. 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

Come. For the gifts of God are ready for the people of God.

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

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **Amen.**

‡WE DEPART TO SERVE‡

*Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ‡ give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn:

“The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”

ELW #551

**1. The Spirit sends us forth to serve;
We go in Jesus' name
To bring glad tidings to the poor,
God's favour to proclaim.**

**2. We go to comfort those who mourn
And set the burdened free;
Where hope is dim, to share a dream
And help the blind to see.**

**3. We go to be the hands of Christ,
To scatter joy like seed
And, all our days to cherish life,
To do the loving deed.**

**4. Then let us go to serve in peace,
The gospel to proclaim.
God's Spirit has empowered us;
We go in Jesus' name.**

***Dismissal**

Go in peace and joy to bear Christ's Word to the world.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Hymn: We Come to You for Healing, Lord: Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923 Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. OneLicense.net #A-705226; *The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve:* Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939 Music: attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820 Text © 1993 Delores Dugner, admin, OCP Publications OneLicense.net #A-705226

✠In Our Thoughts and Prayers✠

Prayers for healing: **Mark** (Jean Collins & Kathy Johnson's cousin's husband), **Tom Bosshardt** (Back Surgery), **Elmer Haas** (Health Issues—Elnora Sell's brother-in-law), **Jennifer Randall** (Recovering from a car accident—Wally & Kathy Randall's daughter-in-law), **Kate West** (Healing—Deb Brown's step daughter), **Jean Collins** (hip replacement surgery), **Liam** (diagnosed with spinal muscular atrophy—Jude Walker's great grandson), **LaDonna Schmidt** (chemotherapy), **Greta Mehling** (Health Issues), **Bruce** (Cancer treatments—friend of Jean Collins & Cathy Johnson), **Reuben & Gloria Gorr** (health issues), **Jordan Hein** (cancer treatment—former member of Calvary), **Julie** (cancer treatment—Travis Miller family), **Joan** (cancer—niece of Marj Nikont), **Patty** (cancer—Jim Dorn's sister-in-law).

Prayers for comfort and peace for: Family and friends of **Bill Steele**.

Prayers for: **Austin & Teighlor** (facing hard decision in regards to son Liam—Jude Walker's granddaughter & husband).



Prayer Requests

If you have a prayer request you would like added to the prayers of the people on Sunday morning, you may notify Christy in the church office during the week or during worship use the Attendance and Prayer Request card and pass them towards the center aisle to be picked up by the ushers (for those worshipping with us online you will find the form under the worship tab on our website and prayer requests will be added to the prayer list in the bulletin the following weekend.)



Kinsey Kleensang, 8/23; Stephanie Todd, 8/25

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.



AUGUST FOOD DONATIONS REQUESTED

FOOD PANTRY: Peanut Butter & Jelly

BACKPACKS: 16 oz jars of Peanut Butter
Containers are located outside Fellowship Hall.

Thanks for your generosity.



WOMEN OF THE ELCA AUGUST MISSION PROJECT:

D.O.V.E.S.



Our mission this month is monetary support for the D.O.V.E.S. shelter. Domestic Violence is alive in our local communities.

Scottsbluff/Gering provides access to 24 hour crisis hotline and a shelter so those trying to escape abuse may find refuge. The shelter is always grateful for donations for the shelter and to help people set up new households. Household items and personal care items are also needed. Don't forget to collect your unused toiletry items when traveling and staying in hotels. Thank you for your support.



There will be a Confirmation Parent/Youth meeting September 1st at 6:30 PM for all 7th and 8th graders to make sure we are all on the same page and address any last-minute changes. (i.e. Delta variant progression, class schedule or any other question or suggestion you might have.) Didn't get a letter about

Confirmation starting? Talk to Pastor Chris or contact the church office.

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday October 10, 2021 Lutheran World Relief School Kits

For 'God's Work, Our Hands' Sunday, we will again be assembling school kits for Lutheran World Relief. We are asking you to collect school supplies which we will assemble on Sunday, October 10. The list is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office and in the August newsletter. Reminder: Nothing can have religious messaging, patriotic symbols, or camouflage. Collection boxes will be outside the office door. Start collecting now and take advantage of all the 'Back to School' sales!!!



WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastors Chris and Sheryl Kester Beyer

This Sunday – August 22

USHERS: Chris & Barb Jensen

LAY READER: Susan Martin

COMMUNION ASST: Shari Copsey

POWERPOINT: Andi Dorn

ACOLYTE: Ayden Tompkins

MEDIA: Maunette Loeks-Van Patten

ALTAR GUILD: Andi Dorn, Shelly Koehler

ORGANIST: Rhonda Boettcher

Next Sunday – August 29

USHERS: Monty & Shari Copsey

LAY READER: Vicki Howell

COMMUNION ASST: Dennis Gorr

POWERPOINT: Jack Martin

ACOLYTE: Ben Moravec

MEDIA: Chris Jensen

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

PIANIST: Dee Brady

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, August 22

10 a.m. – Worship

Tuesday, August 24

12 p.m. – Women's Study @ Calvary

1 p.m. – Quilting

Saturday, August 28

5:30 p.m. – Worship

Sunday, August 29

10 a.m. – Worship

****Mark your calendars JAM starts September 8th!!**

AUGUST 22, 2021
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



People respond differently to Jesus.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 6:56-71	Many disciples desert Jesus
Monday	Joshua 24:1-18	Many tribes renew the covenant
Tuesday	Ephesians 6:10-20	The whole armor of God
Wednesday	Matthew 16:1-12	Pharisees and Sadducees test Jesus
Thursday	Luke 7:1-10	Jesus heals an army officer's servant
Friday	John 3:1-21	Jesus and Nicodemus
Saturday	Psalms 34:15-22	The Lord is with you
Sunday	Mark 7:1-23	Authentic faith

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Simon Peter answered [Jesus], "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God." John 6:68-69 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty and living God, give us faith to trust in you that we may overcome disbelief with faith, fear with hope, and indifference with love through Christ. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may we humbly receive this food with thanksgiving, believing that all good things come from you. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the one who redeems your life give you peace and joy.



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

AUGUST 22, 2021
HYMN OF THE WEEK
Gather Us In



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:

- In an era of deliberate misinformation, what is something you hold on to without wavering?
- What is something you have heard that is hard to believe?
- What does it mean to you that Peter said that Jesus is the Holy One of God?

DEVOTIONS

Read: John 6:56-71.

It is difficult to have a conversation about Jesus without a strong reaction. Many of these reactions are experienced in our text from John 6. Some people hear the news of Jesus as the bread of life and complain that the message is difficult or offensive. Others simply experience disbelief. Some reject the message of Jesus and others actively pursue a path of betrayal. In the midst of all of these naysayers, Peter states words the church has sung throughout its history: "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God" (vv. 68-69). If truth be told, we have likely found ourselves in most—if not all—of those various groups. Such is the humble and challenging life of faith. At different moments of our lives, we, too, respond differently to the message and the presence of Jesus in our lives. When have you or someone you know sounded like a naysayer to Jesus as the Holy One of God? What moves us from disbelief to hope and from rejection to trust?

Pray: Dear God, give us hearts of love and faith that dare to trust that Jesus is the bread of life, the Holy One of God, who brings to us the words of eternal life. Amen.

SERVICE

Paul writes in Ephesians 6:18, "Pray in the spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication." Supplication means to pray for God's help. We can serve others by praying for them. Is there someone you know who is in need of God's help? How can you pray for them this week?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

We wear a seat belt in the car and a helmet when riding a bike to protect us from something bad happening. Ephesians 6:10-17 tells us that God helps protect us. The whole armor of God provides truth, righteousness, peace, faith, and salvation. The sword is the word of God. Draw a picture of a sword, color it, and cut it out. Use the sword as a bookmark in your Bible and as a reminder of the importance of God's word each time you read scripture.



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