



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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calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org

**Sunday Morning Worship
10:00 a.m.
August 20, 2023**

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

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: "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

ELW #886
vv. 1,3&6

- 1. Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!**
- 3. The name of Jesus charms our fears
and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears,
brings life and health and peace.**
- 6. To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.**

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

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Righteous God,

we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Song of Praise:

“Awesome God”

W&P #13

**Our God is an awesome God,
He reigns from heaven above
With wisdom, pow'r, and love
Our God is an awesome God!**

Repeat

**Our God is an awesome God!
Our God is an awesome God!**

***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.

***Prayer of the Day**

God of all peoples,

your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

‡GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO US‡

First reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

¹Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,
and hold fast my covenant —

⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

⁸Thus says the Lord GOD,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 67

Read Responsively

¹May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

²**Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.**

³Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

**⁴Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.**

⁵Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

**⁶The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.**

⁷May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

Second reading: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ²God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel? ²⁹for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Verse**

Page 142

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

***Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28**

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

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

Blessing of the Backpacks:

PMA Bill Huelle

Sermon:

PMA Bill Huelle

(Silence for Reflection and Meditation.)

‡WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD‡

Hymn of the Day:

"Healer of Our Every Ill"

ELW #612

Refrain: **Healer of our ev'ry ill,
light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear,
and hope beyond our sorrow.**

**1. You who know our fears and sadness,
grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. *Refrain***

**2. In the pain and joy beholding
how your grace is still unfolding,
give us all your vision, God of love. *Refrain***

**3. Give us strength to love each other,
ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. *Refrain***

**4. You who know each thought and feeling,
teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. *Refrain***

***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:

....in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

***Sharing of the Peace**

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

Offering

***Offering Prayer**

God of field and forest, sea and sky,
**you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,
and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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

All people are called to Christ's table.
Come, eat what is good.

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**

We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

‡WE DEPART TO SERVE‡

***Benediction**

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed ‡ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

Amen.

***Sending Hymn:**

“We Are Called”

ELW #720

**1. Come! Live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom,
to live in the freedom of the city of God.**

Refrain: **We are called to act with justice,
we are called to love tenderly;
we are called to serve one another,
to walk humbly with God.**

**2. Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless
so hatred and blindness will be no more. *Refrain***

**3. Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other
as sisters and brothers united in love. *Refrain***

* Meal Prayer/Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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In Our Thoughts and Prayers✠

Prayers for healing: **Joni** (stage 4 cancer), **Aimee Roos** (colon cancer & critical kidney disease—Penny Stevens' nephew's wife), **Kathy Johnson** (health issues), **Marsha Bueide** (recovering), **William Gibbs** (Cancer—brother of Larry Gibbs), **Vicki Schmidt** (cancer treatment), **Linda Spomer** (healing/pain from broken back), **Neal Blomenkamp** (recovering), **Catherine Rahrs** (Val Rahrs' mother), **Patty** (cancer—Jim Dorn's sister-in-law).

Prayers for comfort and peace for: Family and friends of **Cindy Cole** (Carolyn Jensen's sister).

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



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 **Vanco Now 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.



CLCW August Mission Project **Cat & Pup Packs Program**

Worship in the Park, TODAY

Join us on today, August 20th @ 10:00 a.m. for Worship in the Park. We will be at Frank Park under the gazebo across the street from the church. Worship will be followed by a congregational picnic.

For the picnic, the Church Council will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks, plates, and silverware, while the congregation is asked to provide salads, sides, and desserts. To save on having to carry chairs across the street, the congregation is also encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs.

Plan now for a fun and celebratory worship service and opportunity for fellowship.



Please join us for an informational meeting about the call process and the ministry of Calvary on Friday, August 25 at 5 p.m. We will be joined by Pastor Montira (A2B) along with Calvary Council, Calvary Call Committee, members of Holy Apostles and Canon Liz of the Episcopal Church.

Sing Praise to the Lord!

Calvary's **Choir practice** will be starting on Wednesday, August 30th at 7pm in the **Choir Loft**. If you love to **sing God's Praise**, you are welcome to join us. Hope to see you there!
Questions? Call Becky Martin at 436-3993.



OWLS (Older, Wiser Lutherans)

OWLS will be meeting **September 6th**.
Come enjoy a BBQ. Then stay for fellowship & some fun games in the Fellowship Hall!
Come join us for a fun afternoon!



Our JAM kickoff will be Wednesday, September 6th!

Our Wednesday evening youth group is for kids in kindergarten through 5th grade. We begin with dinner 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.



Our first EPIC meeting will be Sunday, September 10!

Our middle school/high school youth group is for kids in 6th-12th grade. We will begin our year with an outdoor picnic/lake party at Wally and Kathy Randall's home. We will meet at the church at 11:30 a.m. and drive out to the Randall home. We will have hot dogs/chips and dessert and then have some fun swimming in their private lake. Bring a friend and don't miss out on this fun time! Bring your swimsuit, your towel and plan for a fun time!



WORSHIP LEADERS

This Sunday – August 20 Worship in the Park

USHERS: Chris & Barb Jensen
LAY READER: Becky Martin
HEAD COMMUNION ASST: Jack Martin
COMMUNION ASSTS: Joan Smith & Marlene Downer
ALTAR GUILD: Deb Brown, Vicki Howell, Tracy Steele, Shari Copsey
ORGANIST: Rhonda Boettcher

Next Sunday – August 27

USHERS: Deb Brown & Vicki Howell
LAY READER: Shari Copsey
HEAD COMMUNION ASST: Jack Martin
COMMUNION ASSTS: Becky Martin & Abby Newsom
POWERPOINT: Shawna Payne
ACOLYTES: DaKota Newsom & Brynlee Payne
MEDIA: Maunette Loeks-Van Patten
AUDIO: Jeff Van Patten
ALTAR GUILD: Andi Dorn, Shelly Koehler
PIANIST: Tahnee Hutchinson
COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP: *Please sign up!*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, August 20
Worship in the Park
10 a.m. – Worship in the Park
Followed by a picnic

Monday, August 21
5 p.m. – Elders
5:30 p.m. – Social Ministry
6 p.m. – Worship & Music
6 p.m. – Stewards

Tuesday, August 22
1 p.m. – Quilting

Friday, August 25
5 p.m. – Meeting with Pastor Montira

Saturday, August 26
5:30 p.m. – Worship

Sunday, August 27
10 a.m. – Worship
11 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship in Fellowship Hall

AUGUST 20, 2023
TWELFTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



God blesses us to go into the world with mercy.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

- Sunday Matthew 15:10-28 A woman's faith
- Monday Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 God's saving power is everywhere
- Tuesday Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 God saves Jews and Gentiles
- Wednesday Jude 1:1-7-23 Warnings and exhortations
- Thursday Jeremiah 42:7-17 The Lord will grant you mercy
- Friday Deuteronomy 4:25-31 Moses commands obedience
- Saturday Psalm 67 Tell the nations to praise God
- Sunday Matthew 16:13-20 Peter's confession of Christ

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, (Selah) that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations. Psalm 67:1-2 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:
Merciful God, you have chosen us and blessed us to bless the world. Give us compassionate hearts to do your will through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:
Dear God, for blessing us with the fruitfulness of the earth that gives us food each day we give you thanks through Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:
May God be gracious to you and bless you for the sake of the whole world. (Psalm 67:1-2)

AUGUST 20, 2023
HYMN OF THE WEEK
Great Is Thy Faithfulness



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:
- How have you been blessed by others?
 - How have you blessed others with the love of God?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Psalm 67.
God's mercy is shown through two distinct divine actions. First, God saves us through forgiveness, rescuing us from harm, and by saving us from death. God does a second great act that we sometimes overlook. God blesses us with the fruit of the earth, comfort, and joy. Psalm 67 asks for God's blessings and also affirms that God has already blessed us with abundance. God intends joy for all the earth (all the nations). We are blessed to bless the nations with joy and gladness by knowing the goodness, justice, and mercy of God. In Matthew 15:21-28 that joy is experienced by the Canaanite woman, a foreigner, who is relentless in seeking help for her daughter. Jesus, who was sent, to the lost sheep of the house of Israel (v. 24) resists her requests, but her persistence gains Jesus' mercy. She is acknowledged for having great faith and Jesus' mission expands to those beyond Israel. The point of both Bible texts: God's saving work and blessings are for all.
Discuss: Like the Canaanite woman, when have you persisted in asking for God's mercy?
Pray: Blessing God, you care for us throughout our lives. Give us your joy and gladness and the heart to bless others with your goodness and mercy through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you serve others who are not part of your group or nation?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The prophet Isaiah declared God's intention to make God's house (a temple in Jerusalem) a "house of prayer for all peoples" (Isaiah 56:7). Think or talk about prayer in your home. Is there a special place to pray? Is there a special time to pray? Is there a special way to pray? Do you pray alone or with others? In what ways do you feel your own home is a "house of prayer"? Pray the Lord's Prayer and then say: *Let the peoples praise you, O God. Let all the peoples praise you.* (Psalm 67:5)



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