



# *Christmas Day*

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

17 East 27<sup>th</sup> Street  
Scottsbluff, NE  
(308) 632-8023  
[calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org](http://calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org)

**Christmas Morning Worship**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**December 25, 2022**

## Christmas Day

*On this Christmas morning the people of God gather to celebrate the birth of the Word made flesh, Christ our Lord. While Luke recounts the familiar story of shepherds and angels; John's gospel tells of the Word that dwells among us, full of grace and truth. The meaning of Christmas is made clear: the light shines in the darkness. It is in the liturgy that we encounter the Word made flesh—in the people of God gathered together as the body of Christ, and in the meal around the holy table. We go forth to be bearers of light as we proclaim this good news to all the ends of the earth.*

**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. Please join us again soon!*

**KEY:** ELW and any page number = Worship hymnal (cranberry),

OSB = Other Song Book (red), W&P = Worship & Praise (purple).

\* Indicates: please stand, either in body or in spirit.

### Prelude Music

### Welcome and Announcements

### **✠WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS✠**

#### **The Call to Worship**

Jesus Christ is the Light of the world!

**The Light no darkness can overcome.**

In the light of a new day we gather to celebrate the great light of our salvation.

**With the heavenly host we sing, "Glory to God in the highest heaven."**

In Christ, God's Word is made flesh and lives among us.

**With the shepherds, we will tell of the wonders we have seen and heard.**

As followers of the Word made flesh, we gather to worship in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Opening Hymn:

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

ELW #283

vv. 1&3

1. O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come and behold him,  
born the king of angels:

*Chorus:* O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!

3. Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God  
in the highest:

*(Repeat Chorus)*

### **Confession of Sins and Assurance of Forgiveness**

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Maker of heaven and earth, the Word made flesh, the Lord and giver of life.

**Amen.**

Beholding the miracle in human flesh, let us approach the God of grace to confess our human sin and weakness.

*Silence is kept for reflection self-examination.*

Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

**Forgive our lack of faith and trust in your will.**

Your Son was born in the poverty of a stable.

**Forgive our neglect of the poor.**

The shepherds left their flocks and went to Bethlehem.

**Forgive our selfishness and complacency.**

The magi followed the star to find the Savior of the nations.

**Forgive our reluctance to seek you with all our hearts.**

The angel said, you shall call his name Jesus for he will save his people from their sins.

With great joy, I announce to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**\*The Greeting and Prayer of the Day**

The grace and peace of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

All-powerful and unseen God,

**the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace.**

**Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

**†WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS†**

**First reading: Isaiah 62:6-12**

<sup>6</sup>Upon your walls, O Jerusalem,

I have posted sentinels;

all day and all night

they shall never be silent.

You who remind the LORD,

take no rest,

<sup>7</sup>and give him no rest

until he establishes Jerusalem

and makes it renowned throughout the earth.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD has sworn by his right hand

and by his mighty arm:

I will not again give your grain

to be food for your enemies,

and foreigners shall not drink the wine

for which you have labored;

<sup>9</sup>but those who garner it shall eat it

and praise the LORD,

and those who gather it shall drink it

in my holy courts.

<sup>10</sup>Go through, go through the gates,  
prepare the way for the people;  
build up, build up the highway,  
clear it of stones,  
lift up an ensign over the peoples.

<sup>11</sup>The LORD has proclaimed  
to the end of the earth:  
Say to daughter Zion,  
"See, your salvation comes;  
his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him."

<sup>12</sup>They shall be called, "The Holy People,  
The Redeemed of the LORD";  
and you shall be called, "Sought Out,  
A City Not Forsaken."

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

## Psalm 97

Read Responsively

<sup>1</sup>The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice;  
let the multitude of the isles be glad.

<sup>2</sup>**Clouds and darkness surround the LORD,  
righteousness and justice are the foundations of God's throne.**

<sup>3</sup>Fire goes before the LORD,  
burning up enemies on every side.

<sup>4</sup>**Lightnings light up the world;  
the earth sees and trembles.**

<sup>5</sup>The mountains melt like wax  
before the Lord of all the earth.

<sup>6</sup>**The heavens declare your righteousness, O LORD,  
and all the peoples see your glory.**

<sup>7</sup>Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods!  
Bow down before the LORD, all you gods.

<sup>8</sup>**Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice,  
because of your judgments, O LORD.**

<sup>9</sup>For you are the LORD, most high over all the earth;  
you are exalted far above all gods.

<sup>10</sup>**You who love the LORD, hate evil!**

**God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand of the wicked.**

<sup>11</sup>Light dawns for the righteous,  
and joy for the honest of heart.

<sup>12</sup>**Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous,  
and give thanks to God's holy name.**

**Second reading: Titus 3:4-7**

<sup>4</sup>When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup>he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. <sup>6</sup>This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup>so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

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: Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20**

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

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

**Sermon**

**Pastor Brett**

**‡WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD‡**

**Hymn of the Day:**

**"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"**

**ELW #270**

**1. Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn king;  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful, all you nations, rise;  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with angelic hosts proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"**

*Refrain:* **Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn king!"**

**2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of a virgin's womb.**

**Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!  
Hail, incarnate deity!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain***

**3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace!  
Hail the Sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
ris'n with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
born that we no more may die,  
born to raise each child of earth,  
born to give us second birth. *Refrain***

**\*Profession of Faith: Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**



**\*Prayers of the Church:**

*Each petition ends with:*

God of grace...hear **our prayer**.

*The prayers conclude:*

....we pray to the mercy of God. **Amen.**

**\*Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*(You are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another)*

**\*Offertory Prayer**

Having offered ourselves and our gifts, let us pray...God of abundance, **receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.**

**‡WE CELEBRATE IMMANUEL-GOD WITH US‡**

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

**\*The Great Thanksgiving**

**Page 144**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy....and join their unending hymn:

**\*Holy, Holy, Holy.....**

**Page 144**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

### **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**

Glory to God in the highest!  
Come to the table of peace.

### **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**

God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## ‡WE DEPART TO SERVE‡

### \*Benediction

God bless you and keep you,  
‡ Jesus grant you grace and truth,  
and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,  
now and forever. **Amen.**

### Sending Song:

“The Bells of Christmas”

**ELW #298**  
**vv. 1&4**

**1. The bells of Christmas chime once more;  
the heav'nly guest is at the door.  
He comes to earthly dwellings still  
with new year gifts of peace, good will.**

**4. Oh, join with me, in gladness sing,  
to keep our Christmas with our king,  
until our song, from loving souls,  
like rushing mighty water rolls!**

### Dismissal

Christ the Savior is born!  
Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Postlude

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**Music: O Come, All Ye Faithful** Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, sts. 1, 3-4; tr. unknown, st. 2, ©Public Domain; **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing:** Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt. ©Public Domain; **The Bells of Christmas:** Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Charles Porterfield Krauth, 1823-1883, alt. ©Public Domain

## In Our Thoughts and Prayers†

Prayers for healing: **Bonnie** (hematoma in her leg—Susan Martin's friend), **Neal Blumenkamp, Jo Heidingsfelder, Joy Arnold** (cancer— friend of Deb Brown), **Marsha Bueide** (stroke), **Marti Wegelin, Mary Jane Brown** (stroke—Deb Brown's mother-in-law), **Paul Bueide** (recovering), **Kevin Feil** (sepsis & cancer—Lindsey Singer & Melissa Guerrero's father), **Patty** (cancer—Jim Dorn's sister-in-law), **Mary Jo Haack** (Becky Martin's mother).

Prayers for comfort and safety: **Jeffery Christeleit** (deployed—Brian & Jodi Christeleit's son and Jim & Sheila Miller's grandson), **B.J. Carr** (deployed to Poland—Dee Brady's son-in-law).



Sid Henderson, 12/26; Vicki Schmidt, 12/26; Alec Sibal, 12/27; Kathy Johnson, 12/27;  
Tracy Steele, 12/28; Jack Schmidt, 12/31; Kathrine Fulk 1/1

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](http://www.calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org) and click on the **Give Online** button OR download the **Vanco Now App** on your smartphone. It's safe and secure.



### JANUARY FOOD DONATIONS REQUESTED

**FOOD PANTRY:** Cereal

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

Thanks for your generosity.



Thank you

Thank you to all of you for your support of the Angel Tree. You are giving these special little angels a wonderful Christmas this year by purchasing gifts and donating money to purchase gifts. God Bless you all!



### **Drivers Needed for Ruth Harris**

Ruth Harris is in need of a few people to drive her to/from Sunday service from Emerald Court once a month. If interested in volunteering your time please contact the church office for more information.

**Endowment Fund** application forms are now available in the office. These funds may be used for outreach: Churchwide, Nebraska Synod, and local. The deadline is January 31, 2022.



### **Coffee and Fellowship**



We would like to invite people to stay after worship for a time of fellowship. The coffee pot will be on, but if you would like to provide treats, please sign up on the sheet outside the office.



**JAM & EPIC on Christmas Break until  
January 11, 2023**



**\*\* PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO SATURDAY  
EVENING SERVICE ON DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>.**



## Laundry Love

Calvary has partnered with St. Francis Episcopal Church and First Presbyterian Church to provide a monthly Laundry Love Event in our community. Calvary will host Laundry Love every 3rd month; our next event is January 21st. In preparation for that day we will need quarters as well as dryer sheets or softener. Laundry detergent has already been donated. So save your quarters and drop them in the Laundry Bottle outside the pastor's office.



## Sound System Operator Needed!!

We are in need of additional people who would be willing to run the sound system during worship services, especially on Praise Team Sundays. If interested please talk to Jim Dorn.

## WORSHIP LEADERS

**Pastor Brett Vander Berg**

**This Sunday – December 25**

**USHERS:** Chris & Barb Jensen

**LAY READER:** Dennis Gorr

**HEAD COMMUNION ASST:** Barb Jensen

**COMMUNION ASSTS:** Marlene Downer,  
Abby Newsom

**POWERPOINT:** Maunette Loeks-Van  
Patten

**ACOLYTES:** Rhyan Buckley & DaKota  
Newsom

**MEDIA:** Jeff Van Patten

**AUDIO:** Jim Dorn

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

**ORGANIST:** Rhonda Boettcher

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

**Next Sunday – January 1**

**USHERS:** Deb Brown & Vicki Howell

**LAY READER:** Mary Jo Huelle

**POWERPOINT:** Matt Payne

**ACOLYTES:** Ben Moravec & Jacey Cochran

**MEDIA:** Chris Jensen

**AUDIO:** Trea Hess

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

**PIANIST:** Dee Brady

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

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Sunday, December 25**

***Christmas Day***

***Merry Christmas***

10 a.m. – Worship

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

**Tuesday, December 27**

1 p.m. – Quilting

**Saturday, December 31**

***New Year's Eve***

**NO Worship**

**Sunday, January 1**

10 a.m. – Worship

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

DECEMBER 25, 2022  
CHRISTMAS DAY



*The glory and power of God is here.*

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

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

Sunday	John 1:1-14	The Word became flesh
Monday	Isaiah 52:7-10	Let Zion rejoice
Tuesday	Hebrews 1:1-12	God has spoken by a Son
Wednesday	Isaiah 62:6-12	Salvation of Zion
Thursday	Psalms 97	The glory of God's reign
Friday	Titus 3:4-7	Maintain good deeds
Saturday	Psalms 98	Sing praises to the Lord
Sunday	Matthew 2:13-23	The escape to Egypt

**SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

*And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.*

John 1:14 (NRSV)

**PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

**A Prayer for the Week:**

God of hope, peace, joy, and love, we thank you for your glory, power, and might as shown to us in the humble birth of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, you who feed shepherds and kings alike, we thank you for this food, a sign of your glory, power, and might that is shown to us in Jesus' birth in Bethlehem. Amen.

**A Blessing to Give:**

May the glory of Jesus' birth shine brightly in you today.



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DECEMBER 25, 2022



**HYMN OF THE WEEK**  
*Angels We Have Heard on High*

**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:

- How does someone overcome the fear of darkness?
- How does Jesus bring you from fear and darkness into joy and light?

**DEVOTIONS**

*Read: John 1:1-14.*

John's introduction of Jesus points to a world of contrasts between darkness and light, that is, between the power of fear and deception and the light of God that brings grace, and truth. The arrival of Jesus, the Word that became flesh and now dwells among us, sheds light on what true power and real life looks like: it's the glory of grace and truth. Grace is that divine gift of undeserved kindness. In John truth is more than facts. It is a way of life lived in relationship to Jesus, who is "the way, the truth and the life" (John 14:6). Jesus comes to shed light on that which brings God's glory and creates goodness and life. Through the Word that became flesh, all created life has come into being. Powers that live in darkness are not life-giving. The good news to hear this Christmas—and always—is that Jesus' light overcomes darkness. Jesus is the source of all that is life-giving, that which is full of grace and truth for all. It is the power with knowing and trusting.

*Discuss:* Where have you seen the powers of darkness at work in the world? Where have you seen the powers of grace and truth at work in the world?

*Pray:* God of glory and might, we thank you for your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the light of the world, who brings your grace and truth to conquer all the darkness of sin and evil. Amen.

**SERVICE**



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you help others to have hope in the God of grace and truth?

**RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**



During the four weeks of Advent, we prepared our hearts and minds for the day of Jesus' birth and his coming again. Light the four candles of hope, peace, joy, and love on the Advent wreath. Then light the white one, the Christ candle, in the center of the wreath. This week, we focus on God's unconditional love for us and our love for one another. Dim the lights in the room and have a moment of silence to gaze upon the candles.

*Leader: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. (John 1:5)*

*All: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord, the light of Christ that gives us hope, peace, joy, and love.*



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)