



Easter

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

Calvary Lutheran Church

17 East 27th Street

Scottsbluff, NE

(308) 632-8023

www.calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org

Easter Sunday

10:00 a.m.

April 4, 2021

Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. With Mary Magdalene we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. But this is why we gather: to proclaim, witness, praise, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ's death and resurrection. And let us never forget that wherever we are in our own faith journeys, Jesus will meet us there, just as he met Mary. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Prayer Before Worship: Jesus, victorious Lord. We exult in your resurrection. As we sing "alleluia" with our voices, let our lives embody "alleluia" as a testimony to your love and a witness to your eternal life. Amen.

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

* 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‡

***Call to Worship**

Today is the day of resurrection!

We will rejoice and be glad!

Our sin has been forgiven.

Death has been defeated.

Light has overcome the darkness.

The tomb is empty!

Jesus Christ is risen today.

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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

The grace and peace of the risen Lord be with you.

And also with you.

God of mercy,

We no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, 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 10:34-43

³⁴Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ — he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-17, 19-24

Read Responsively

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;

God's mercy endures forever.

²Let Israel now declare,

"God's mercy endures forever."

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song,

and has become my salvation.

¹⁵Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD is exalted!

The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

¹⁷I shall not die, but live,

and declare the works of the LORD.

¹⁹Open for me the gates of righteousness;

I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰This is the gate of the LORD;

here the righteous may enter."

²¹I give thanks to you, for you have answered me

and you have become my salvation.

²²The stone that the builders rejected

has become the chief cornerstone.

²³By the LORD has this been done;

it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

***Gospel Acclamation:**

Page 142

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

***Gospel: John 20:1-18**

Response after the announcement of the gospel:

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb.

⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

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

Kids Sermon

Pastor Sheryl

Sermon

(Silence for Reflection and Meditation)

Pastor Sheryl

✠WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD✠

Hymn:

"Now the Green Blade Rises"

ELW #379

vv. 1-3

- 1. Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.**

**2. In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,
thinking that he would never wake again;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.**

**3. Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.**

***Profession of Faith: Apostles Creed**

Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

Once you were no people, now you are God's people. Through our baptism into Jesus' death and resurrection we have become God's people.

Do you believe in God the Father?

Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God, the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?
Do you renounce your old, dead life?

Yes, for once we were dead in our sins, but now we are alive in Christ Jesus.

Do you plan to continue living as one of God's children, proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection in all you say and do?

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me -- each and every day of my life.

***Prayers of the Church:**

Each petition ends with:

Risen Lord...**hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude with:

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

***Exchange of Peace**

The peace of the risen Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

***Offering Prayer**

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

‡THE FEAST OF VICTORY‡

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

*** Words of Institution**

(The Words of Institution are spoken by the pastor ending with...)

As we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ is present! Christ will come again!

The stone is rolled away. Death could not hold Him.

We are set free from the power of death. We live in the joy of the resurrection.

To you, O God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

***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.)

"Mighty to Save"

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 WALK IN NEWNESS OF LIFE‡

***Benediction**

The God of life, who raised Jesus from the bonds of death, who sends forth the Spirit to renew the face of the earth, be merciful to you and ‡ bless you, now and forever.

Amen.

***Hymn:**

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!”

**ELW #369
vv. 1&4**

**1. Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!
offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!
at the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!**

**4. Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia!
all your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!**

***Dismissal**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

The Liturgy for today is from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2018 Augsburg Fortress. Annual License #43625. The songs are reprinted by permission under OneLicense.net A-705226 & CCLI License #1825044 and LicenSing Online #601700. Hymns: Now the Green Blade Rises: Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872-1958 Text from Oxford Book of Carols © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved OneLicense.net #A-705226; Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!: Text: attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1807-1882, alt. Music: Robert Williams, 1781–1821 ©Public Domain

Thank you to everyone who provided an Easter lily for our sanctuary this Easter.



Virginia Pickett & Family

**In memory of
Lloyd Ernest Effie Pickett
and Carl & Fern Stahla**

Marv and Alice Braaten

**In memory of
Marv's parents Hans & Mabel Braaten, Marv's brother Glen Braaten,
Alice's parents Sam & Betty Backer,
and brother-in-law Don Stormoe.**

Jean Stormoe

**In memory of
her husband Don Stormoe
and her parents Sam & Betty Backer.**

Pam Eskam

**In memory of
her husband Gary Eskam.**

✠In Our Thoughts and Prayers✠

Prayers for healing: **Chris & Molly Peterson** (COVID—Wes & Elnora Sell's grandson & wife), **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), **Shirlie Schuldies** (health issues—mainly her heart), **Caleb Payne** (health issues), **Bruce** (Cancer treatments—friend of Jean Collins & Cathy Johnson), **Laynette Van Anne** (brain tumor—friend of Dee Brady), **LaDonna Schmidt** (colon cancer), **Bill Steele** (Recovering from COVID-19), **Beth Janecek** (Radiation), **Rich** (COVID-19 recovery—brother of Barb Gorr), **Cathy Rahrs** (rehab @ home), **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 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 online Attendance and Prayer Request card 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.



Lynn Margheim, 4/4; Bill Thomas, 4/5; Gregg Gingrich, 4/6; Will Voss, 4/6;
Tanner Blumenkamp, 4/9; Monty Copsey, 4/9; Ruth Harris, 4/9

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.

Calling all 4th-8th graders! We would like to set up an acolyte schedule again, so if you would like to be put on the acolyte schedule call/text Angie at 631-2768.

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.

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

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

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 4

USHERS: Dennis & Barb Gorr

LAY READER: Shari Copsey

COMMUNION ASST: Barb Jensen

POWERPOINT: Mary Jo Huelle

MEDIA: Maunette Loeks-Van Patten

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

ORGANIST: Rhonda Boettcher

SONG LEADER: Jack Martin

Next Sunday – April 11

USHERS: Kent & Dawn Holub

LAY READER: Chris Jensen

COMMUNION ASST: Dennis Gorr

POWERPOINT: Jack Martin

MEDIA: Jeff Van Patten

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

PIANIST: Dee Brady

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, April 4

Easter Sunday

10 a.m. – Worship

Monday, April 5

7 p.m. – Hannah Circle @ Calvary's Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, April 6

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

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

7:30 p.m. – Confirmation on Zoom

Wednesday, April 7

10 a.m. – Ruth Circle

5:45 p.m. – Social Ministry

6 p.m. – JAM

7 p.m. – Choir Practice

Saturday, April 10

5:30 p.m. – Worship

Sunday, April 11

10 a.m. – Worship

APRIL 4, 2021
EASTER SUNDAY



The resurrected Jesus is with us, alleluia!

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Mark 16:1-8	The tomb is empty
Monday	Acts 10:34-43	God shows no partiality
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Christ died for our sins
Wednesday	John 21:1-18	Jesus is risen
Thursday	John 11:1-27	Jesus is the resurrection
Friday	Matthew 28:1-20	The resurrection of Jesus
Saturday	Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24	Give thanks to the Lord
Sunday	John 20:19-31	Come and see and believe

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalms 118:1 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of resurrection hope, overcome our fears and gladden our hearts, for you are near with saving grace through Christ our Lord. Amen. Alleluia.

Meatime Prayer:

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever! Amen. Alleluia. (Psalm 118:1) (Traditional prayer for ending a meal)

A Blessing To Give:

May the Lord Jesus Christ be your strength and your salvation. (Psalm 118:14)



© 2020 Milestones Ministry, LLC. All rights reserved.

APRIL 4, 2021
HYMN OF THE WEEK
Jesus Christ Is Risen Today



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

WEEKLY MILESTONES

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- What event have you experienced that left you speechless?
- What do you think it was like for Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James to stand before an angel at the empty tomb and receive awesome yet unbelievable news?
- The women left the tomb and said nothing to anyone. Why do you think they were afraid?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Mark 16:1-8.

Which is harder to believe: that Jesus rose from the dead or that the Gospel of Mark ends with the words, "they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid"? In fact, later Scripture text copiers were so dismayed by the original ending that they added more verses. It just didn't make sense that the original text seemed so bleak. Instead of saying to the world, "Christ is risen, alleluia," they leave committed to say nothing for they were afraid. Perhaps part of the Gospel message is the realization that our human frailty will always get in the way. What is evident is that the message did get out. We are reflecting on that message now. In the midst of human frailty and failures what we celebrate on Easter Sunday is that God wins and continues to win by delivering on God's promises no matter what. Alleluia. We as Jesus' followers have a ministry to do for the world because Jesus rose from the dead. Yes, we may be imperfect workers, but the promise still holds true and we still have good news to tell the world. Alleluia, Jesus has been raised, is loose in the world, and is out ahead of us now. "Jesus is going ahead of you to [name your own destination]; there you will see him, just as he told you" (v. 7). How does knowing that Jesus goes ahead of you whenever you go impact your life as a follower? *Pray: God of glory and might, we give you thanks for the resurrected Christ who walks with us daily. Amen. Alleluia.*

SERVICE

There are many people who serve others and work on Easter Sunday in such places as in hospitals, nursing homes, police and fire stations, and restaurants. Is there a way you can share Easter resurrection cheer with those who are working?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Easter Day is full of church and family traditions to enrich our lives of faith. One tradition is to shout out and sing alleluias after its absence during the season of Lent. Alleluia means "praise the Lord." Begin each day this week with the words, "Christ is risen. He is risen, indeed. Alleluia." If others are present, say these words together with a high-five.



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

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