



Calvary Lutheran Church

"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.
February 26, 2023

On Ash Wednesday we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a solemn call to fasting and repentance. In marking our foreheads with ashes, we acknowledge that someday we will all die and return to the earth. At the same time, the ash traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism, so that what seems like an ending is really an invitation to make each day a new beginning; in which we are washed in God's mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our brow, we journey forth trusting that in Christ, we have already received the promise of new life now and forever.

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: **“Just As I Am, without One Plea”** **ELW #592**

**1. Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**2. Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**3. Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come,**

**4. Just as I am; thy love unknown
has broken ev'ry barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

The Greeting and Invitation to Lent

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.

Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed.

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

***Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

Gracious God,

out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy 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.

‡GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO US‡

First Reading: Isaiah 58:1-12

¹Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

²Yet day after day they seek me

and delight to know my ways,

as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;

they ask of me righteous judgments,

they delight to draw near to God.

³"Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?"

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,
and oppress all your workers.

⁴Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight

and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today

will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵Is such the fast that I choose,

a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,

and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,

a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶Is not this the fast that I choose:

to loose the bonds of injustice,

to undo the thongs of the yoke,

to let the oppressed go free,

and to break every yoke?

⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,

and bring the homeless poor into your house;

when you see the naked, to cover them,

and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,

and your healing shall spring up quickly;

your vindicator shall go before you,

the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

⁹Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;

you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹The LORD will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.

¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 51:1-17

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²**Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

³For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.

⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother's womb.

⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

⁸**Let me hear joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

⁹Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.

¹⁰**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

¹¹Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

¹²**Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

¹³Let me teach your ways to offenders,
and sinners shall be restored to you.

¹⁴**Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.**

¹⁵O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

¹⁶**For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it.
You are not pleased with burnt offering.**

¹⁷The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise.

Epistle Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

^{20b}We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

^{6:1}As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

***Lenten Verse:**

“Let Your Steadfast Love...”

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**Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.
Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.
Save us as you promised; we will trust your word.
Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.**

***Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21**

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

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

²“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁶“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

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

Kids Sermon:

Angie Hinze

Sermon:

Pastor Brett

(silence for reflection and meditation)

‡WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD‡

Hymn of the Day: "Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"

ELW #608

1. Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
calling for you and for me.
See, on the portals he's waiting and watching,
watching for you and for me.

Refrain

"Come home, (Come home,)
come home! (come home!)
You who are weary, come home."
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling, "O sinner, come home!"

2. Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,
pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,
mercies for you and for me? *Refrain*

3. Oh, for the wonderful love he has promised,
promised for you and for me!
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,
pardon for you and for me. *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:

Merciful God...**receive our prayer.**

The prayers conclude with:

... through Jesus Christ our Savior. **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)

Offering

Offertory: "Christ, We Do All Adore Thee"

Choir

***Offertory Prayer**

Having offered ourselves and our gifts to God, let us pray.

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.
Amen.

‡THE LORD'S SUPPER‡

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

***Confession of Sin**

Gracious Lord, ashes remind us of our human frailty and mortality. You are eternal, but we are limited in our days. Someday we will return to dust and ashes. You remind us of this in your Word:

Dust we are and to dust we shall return. *(Genesis 3:19; Psalm 90:3)*

Ashes speak of condemnation for sin. When Adam fell into sin, judgment and death came to all. Since we all are born into sin, we are marked for death and ashes.

Dust we are and to dust we shall return.

Ashes speak of our total dependence upon you, O God. We are but frail human beings who must rely upon you, dear Father. We think we are capable of taking care of ourselves and make our own plans for greatness. However, so often these plans fail and crumble into ashes.

Dust we are and to dust we shall return.

Ashes speak of our humiliation and repentance. As people in the Bible humbled themselves and expressed their repentance and mourning in the signs of sackcloth and ashes, we also humble ourselves before you, O God, as we ask you to forgive our sins through Jesus Christ, our Lord. As we repent we put on dust and ashes.

Dust we are and to dust we shall return.

People of God, as we see the meaning of ashes and dust for us as Christians, we now make our earnest confession unto the Lord.

Almighty God, you have always warned your people against trusting in false gods. We are sinful and this nature has given birth to sinful deeds: things we have done and things we have left undone. We are but dust and ash of the ground and we deserve nothing more than to return to the dust. Though we deserve your stern judgment, but for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive and renew us. Amen.

Hear the Word of the Lord, "Repent, and believe the gospel." With these words, Jesus began his ministry and now directs us to make repentance and hear his good news. Therefore, as you have made repentance, now hear the gospel. I, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, announce to you the grace of God. Your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the ‡ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

***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.**

Imposition of Ashes & Distribution of Communion

During the Imposition of Ashes, the worship leaders mark the forehead of each person with a cross of ashes, saying: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." You will then proceed to the communion servers to receive assurance of God's love and forgiveness through the gift of Holy Communion.

All are invited to participate in the Imposition of the Ashes and the Lord's Supper.
(WHITE GRAPE JUICE and GLUTEN FREE wafers are available. Just ask the server.)

"Communion Invitation"

Choir

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Post-Communion Prayer**

Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. **Amen.**

‡WE DEPART TO SERVE‡

***Benediction**

God, the giver of love, ‡ Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.
Amen.

***Closing Hymn:**

“Now the Day Is Over”

**ELW #570
vv. 1,2&5**

**1. Now the day is over;
night is drawing nigh;
shadows of the evening
steal across the sky.**

**2. Jesus, give the weary
calm and sweet repose;
with your tend'rest blessing
may our eyelids close.**

**5. When the morning wakens,
then may I arise
pure and fresh and sinless
in your holy eyes.**

***Sending**

Go in peace. Serve in love.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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New Members of Calvary

We would like to welcome our new members.

**Don & Vicki Stahla,
Jan Van Newkirk
and**

Corey, Alisha, Brody & Mataya Weitzel



Church Membership

*Establishing Roots in
a faith community!*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Shirlie Schuldies, 2/28; Carol Bosshardt, 3/2; Brad Johnston, 3/3

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

In Our Thoughts and Prayers†

Prayers for healing: **Susan Martin** (recovering from a fall), **Linda Spomer** (healing/pain from broken back), **Lee Saip** (hospitalized due to an infection—Wes & Elnora’s son-in-law), **Perry Crom** (health issues-nephew of Shirlie Schuldies), **Hollie** (recovering from surgery—friend of Nannie Walsh), **Willard Rusch** (injuries from a fall—Becca Pierce’s father), **Neal Blomenkamp** (recovering from heart surgery), **Kaitlyn Carr** (shoulder surgery—Dee Brady’s daughter), **Catherine Rahrs** (blood clots—Val Rahrs’ mother), **Joy Arnold** (cancer— friend of Deb Brown), **Paul Bueide** (recovering), **Patty** (cancer— Jim Dorn’s sister-in-law).

Prayers for comfort and peace for: Family and friends of **Kevin Feil** (Lindsey Singer & Melissa Guerrero’s father).

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

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.



MARCH FOOD DONATIONS REQUESTED

FOOD PANTRY: Sauces

BACKPACKS: Fruit Cups

Containers are located outside Fellowship Hall.

Thanks for your generosity.



CLCW MARCH MISSION PROJECT: Food for meals at the Lakota Lutheran Center

Cash donations will be used to help supplement the food ministry at the Lakota Center. Meals are an important part of community at the Center and extends to a large number of people. 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.



March 1st, the meal is @ 5:30 pm
with worship to follow @ 6:30 pm.
This week is Pizza Casserole
sponsored by the Choir.



"Healing Mercy" is the theme for our Wednesday evening Lenten services this year. Throughout the Gospels, we see Jesus willing to reach out and heal those who are hurting and desperate. This series will give us an opportunity to reflect on the stories of Jesus and his power to heal. What in us is hurting and in need of healing this season? Whether it is in body, mind, relationships, or our faith -- we all carry wounds. Join us at 6:30 PM on Wednesday evenings starting February 22, Ash Wednesday. Come in faith, as together we trust that Jesus desires to extend "Healing Mercy" to us all.

2023 LENTEN LUNCHES

will be held on Tuesdays from Noon to 1 p.m. during Lent.

SCHEDULE

- February 28** - First Presbyterian Church
101 E. 20th St., Scottsbluff
- March 7** - St. Francis Episcopal Church
14 E. 20th St., Scottsbluff
- March 14** - Westway Christian Church
1701 W. 27th St., Scottsbluff
- March 21** - First United Methodist Church
2002 4th Ave., Scottsbluff
- March 28** - First Presbyterian Church
101 E. 20th St., Scottsbluff

Celebrating the 250th
anniversary of the hymn
"Amazing Grace"



WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Brett Vander Berg

This Sunday – February 26

USHERS: Chris & Barb Jensen

LAY READER: Chris Jensen

HEAD COMMUNION ASST: Vicki Howell

COMMUNION ASSTS: Barb Jensen & Marlene Downer

POWERPOINT: Shawna Payne

ACOLYTES: Brynlee Payne & Jacey Cochran

MEDIA: Jeff Van Patten

AUDIO: Trea Hess

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

PIANIST: Dee Brady

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP: Rick & Lynn Margheim

Next Sunday – March 5

USHERS: Deb Brown & Vicki Howell

LAY READER: Mary Jo Huelle

HEAD COMMUNION ASST: Shari Copsey

COMMUNION ASSTS: Tracy Steele & Chris Thomas

POWERPOINT: Andi Dorn

ACOLYTES: Ayden Tompkins & DaKota Newsom

MEDIA: Chris Jensen

AUDIO: Jim Dorn

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

ORGANIST: Rhonda Boettcher

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP: Joan Smith

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, February 26

10 a.m. – Worship

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

Monday, February 27

5 p.m. – Parish Ed

Tuesday, February 28

12 p.m. – Sarah's Study

12 p.m. – Lenten Lunch @ First Presbyterian Church

1 p.m. – Quilting

Wednesday, March 1

12 p.m. – OWLS Luncheon

5:30 p.m. – Lenten Meal

6:30 p.m. – Lenten Worship

7 p.m. – Choir Practice

Saturday, March 4

5:30 p.m. – Worship

Sunday, March 5

10 a.m. – Worship

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

FEBRUARY 26, 2023
FIRST SUNDAY
IN LENT



Jesus conquers evil.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 4:1-11	Temptation of Jesus
Monday	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7	First sin and its punishment
Tuesday	Romans 5:12-19	Adam and Christ
Wednesday	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Don't worship idols
Thursday	Ephesians 6:10-17	The whole armor of God
Friday	Hebrews 2:5-18	Exaltation through humiliation
Saturday	Psalms 32	The joy of forgiveness
Sunday	John 3:1-17	For God so loved the world

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him. Matthew 4:10-11 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, it is difficult to face the evil within and around us. Thank you for facing and conquering the power of sin through Christ Jesus, the Son of God. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God of steadfast love and mercy, we thank you for this meal and all that you do to care for us through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God keep you from all evil and give you peace through Jesus Christ.



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FEBRUARY 26, 2023
HYMN OF THE WEEK
*O Lord, throughout
These Forty Days*

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:

- When you are going through difficult times, who supports you?
- Do you believe that God is always there for you in good and bad times? Explain.

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 4:1-11.

After his baptism, Jesus is guided by the Holy Spirit to go out into the wilderness, a place of testing and identity formation. He is tested as he faces Satan and the basic temptations of comfort, worshipping false gods, and misuse of power. Jesus does not give in to these temptations. As the Son of God, he is adamant and without compromise. We, on the other hand, find it easy to compromise goodness in the presence of evil by tolerating comfort over justice, worship of false gods, and powers that hurt others without grieving us. In a world where little compromises lead to major sins and disappointments, it is good to know that our Savior faced down evil and won. Evil is real and does real damage to God's creation, including human beings and their relationships. The good news is that as fallible and susceptible as we are to evil, God in Christ has conquered every evil power.

Discuss: How does Jesus' victory over Satan give you strength and courage to live each day? **Pray:** Eternal God, you who never give up on us and always oppose evil, we thank you for your steadfast love and mercy through Christ Jesus. Amen.

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you reach out to someone who feels alone?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Lent is a period of forty days when we focus on prayer, fasting, and almsgiving as we prepare for Easter. Almsgiving is the tradition or practice of giving money or food to those in need. Decorate an Almsgiving Box to collect money for those in need during Lent. Place the box in your home. The collected money is to be donated at the end of Lent. This week rather than eating out, place money that you might have spent in the box to give to others.

Pray: Loving God, thank you for giving us daily bread. Help us to give to others so that they may also be given daily bread. We pray in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, amen.



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

