



**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](http://calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org)

**Sunday Morning Worship  
10:00 a.m.  
February 5, 2023**

## Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

**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:

**“God, Whose Almighty Word”**

**ELW #673**

**1. God, whose almighty word  
chaos and darkness heard  
and took their flight:  
hear us, we humbly pray,  
and where the gospel day  
sheds not its glorious ray,  
let there be light.**

**2. Christ, who once came to bring,  
on your redeeming wing,  
healing and sight;  
health to the troubled mind,  
sight where illusions blind;  
oh, now to humankind  
let there be light.**

**3. Spirit of truth and love,  
life-giving, holy dove,  
speed forth your flight;  
move on the water's face  
bearing the lamp of grace,  
and in earth's darkest place  
let there be light.**

**4. Holy and blessed three,  
glorious Trinity,  
Wisdom, Love, Might:  
boundless as ocean's tide,  
rolling in fullest pride,  
through the earth, far and wide,  
let there be light.**

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

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

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*(Silence for reflection and self-examination)*

Holy One, source of our renewal,  
**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of ✠ Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

## **\*Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## **\*This is the Feast of Victory**

**Page 140 vv. 1, 3**

*Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

**1. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God. *Refrain.***

**3. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. *Refrain.***

## **\*Prayer of the Day**

Lord God,

**with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **‡GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO US‡**

### **First Reading: Isaiah 58:1-9a**

<sup>1</sup>Shout 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.

<sup>2</sup>Yet 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.

<sup>3</sup>"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.

<sup>4</sup>Look, 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.

<sup>5</sup>Is 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?

<sup>6</sup>Is 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?

<sup>7</sup>Is 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?

<sup>8</sup>Then 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.

<sup>9</sup>Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 112:1-9**

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD  
and have great delight in God's commandments!

<sup>2</sup>**Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

<sup>3</sup>Wealth and riches will be in their house,  
and their righteousness will last forever.

<sup>4</sup>**Light shines in the darkness for the upright;  
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

<sup>5</sup>It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.

<sup>6</sup>**For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

<sup>7</sup>They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

<sup>9</sup>They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

### **Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12**

<sup>1</sup>When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup>My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

<sup>6</sup>Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. <sup>7</sup>But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. <sup>8</sup>None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>But, as it is written,

"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him" —

<sup>10</sup>these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup>For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup>Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

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

**\*Gospel Acclamation:**

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

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**\*Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20**

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

<sup>13</sup>You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. <sup>14</sup>You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup>No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. <sup>17</sup>Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup>For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

*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:**

**“Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”**

**ELW #712  
vv. 1&3**

**1. Lord, whose love in humble service  
bore the weight of human need,  
who upon the cross, forsaken,  
worked your mercy’s perfect deed:  
we, your servants, bring the worship  
not of voice alone, but heart;  
consecrating to your purpose  
ev’ry gift which you impart.**

3. As we worship, grant us vision,  
till your love's revealing light  
in its height and depth and greatness  
dawns upon our quickened sight,  
making known the needs and burdens  
your compassion bids us bear,  
stirring us to ardent service,  
your abundant life to share.

**\*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:*

....In Jesus' name we pray. **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: "The Prayer" with "Lead Us, Lord"**

**Choir**

**\*Offertory Prayer**

Having offered ourselves and our gifts, let us pray...Liberating God,  
**you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, Amen.**

**‡HOLY COMMUNION‡**

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

**\*The Great Thanksgiving**

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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.....**

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**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

Come and taste the joy of God!

### Distribution of Communion:

Christ is truly present in the Lord's Supper with gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

All are welcome and invited to receive Holy Communion.

*(Communion will be served continuously at two stations in the front of the church.*

*WHITE GRAPE JUICE and GLUTEN FREE WAFERS are available. Just ask the server.*

*Children who are not yet communicants are invited to come forward for a blessing.)*

### "Lamb of God"

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**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace.**

### Distribution Music:

Rhonda Boettcher

### \*Post-Communion Blessing

### \*Post-Communion Prayer

Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table.  
Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. **Amen.**

**‡WE DEPART TO SERVE‡**

**\*Benediction**

The God who faithfully brings forth justice  
and breaks the oppressor's rod  
‡ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,  
today and always.  
**Amen.**

**\*Sending Hymn:**

**“Thy Strong Word”**

**ELW #511  
vv. 1&5**

**1. Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;  
at thy speaking it was done.  
For created light we thank thee,  
while thine ordered seasons run.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise to thee who light dost send!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia without end!**

**5. Give us lips to sing thy glory,  
tongues thy mercy to proclaim,  
throats that shout the hope that fills us,  
mouths to speak thy holy name.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
May the light which thou dost send  
fill our songs with alleluias,  
alleluias without end!**

**\*Dismissal**

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

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## **In Our Thoughts and Prayers**†

Prayers for healing: **Linda Spomer** (healing/pain from broken back), **Lee Saip** (hospitalized due to an infection—Wes & Elnora’s son-in-law), **Marsha Bueide** (recovering), **Perry Crom** (health issues-nephew of Shirlye 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), **Kevin Feil** (sepsis & cancer—Lindsey Singer & Melissa Guerrero’s father), **Patty** (cancer—Jim Dorn’s sister-in-law).

Prayers for comfort and peace for: Family and friends of **Dave Fitzgibbon** (Myron & Brigitte Loseke’s son-in-law).

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



Amy Hauschild, 2/8; David Stevens, 2/8; Kyndal Burgner, 2/9

*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](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.



## **FEBRUARY FOOD DONATIONS REQUESTED**

**FOOD PANTRY:** Canned Meat

**BACKPACKS:** Granola Bars

Containers are located outside Fellowship Hall.

Thanks for your generosity.



### **JAM on Wednesdays from 5:30-7:00 p.m.**

Our Wednesday evening youth group is for kids in kindergarten through 6th grade. We begin with dinner (ravioli bake/bread/dessert) 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.

## **CLCW FEBRUARY MISSION PROJECT:**

### **Bake-less Bake Sale**

Instead of spending the money to make baked items and asking people to purchase them, the women are asking for cash donations in the amount that you might normally spend to make or buy items at a bake sale. Money raised goes to our mission projects for the world, our nation, and our local community. 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.



### **Lenten Meals**

Lent is fast approaching if you would be interested in providing a Wednesday Lenten meal, please contact the church office or Bill Huelle.

### **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.





## **EPIC on Today, February 5<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30 p.m.**

Fast Food Frenzy/bowling party! Meet at Calvary at 11:30am. We will make a game of our lunch as we make our way to Classic Lanes to bowl a few games. Join us for a fun afternoon!! Please come and join us all 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders!



## **SUNDAY, FEB. 12 (Following Worship) A Fundraiser for the Cat/Pup Pack Program**

If you are interested in bringing a crock pot of soup or a dessert, please talk to Angie or sign up outside the office. And don't forget to stay after worship on the 12<sup>th</sup> for some delicious

homemade soups and desserts! Riverstone Bank will be matching funds. Let's do our part to help feed the kids in the community.

## WORSHIP LEADERS

**Pastor Brett Vander Berg**

**This Sunday – February 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 & Rhyen Buckley

**MEDIA:** Jeff Van Patten

**AUDIO:** Jim Dorn

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

**ORGANIST:** Rhonda Boettcher

**COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP:** Elnora Sell

**Next Sunday – February 12**

**USHERS:** Monty & Shari Copsey

**LAY READER:** Angie Hinze

**HEAD COMMUNION ASST:** Barb Jensen

**COMMUNION ASSTS:** Rick & Lynn Margheim

**POWERPOINT:** Matt Payne

**ACOLYTES:** Ben Moravec & Merrick Walsh

**MEDIA:** Chris Jensen

**AUDIO:** Trea Hess

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

**PIANIST:** Dee Brady

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Sunday, February 5**

10 a.m. – Worship

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

11:30 a.m. – EPIC – Fast Food Frenzy/Bowling Party

**Monday, February 6**

7 p.m. – Hannah Circle @ Becky Martin's

**Tuesday, February 7**

12 p.m. – Women's Study

1 p.m. – Quilting

**Wednesday, February 8**

5:30 p.m. – JAM

6 p.m. – Confirmation

7 p.m. – Choir Practice

**Saturday, February 11**

5:30 p.m. – Worship

**Sunday, February 12**

**Confirmation Sunday**

9 a.m. – Confirmation Pictures

10 a.m. – Worship & Installation of Council

11 a.m. – Soup Dinner

FEBRUARY 5, 2023  
FIFTH SUNDAY  
AFTER EPIPHANY



*The power of knowing Christ crucified.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 5:13-20	Salt and light
Monday	Isaiah 58:1-12	False and true worship
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 2:1-16	True wisdom of God
Wednesday	Isaiah 40:27-31	The Lord gives strength
Thursday	1 Peter 4:12-16	Suffering as a Christian
Friday	James 1:2-8	Faith and wisdom
Saturday	Psalms 112	Blessings of the righteous
Sunday	Matthew 5:21-37	Teachings of Jesus

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*When I [Paul] came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. 1 Corinthians 2:1-2 (NRSV)*

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### A Prayer for the Week:

Loving God, give us your wisdom to see in the cross of Christ the path of love, humility, and service to others above all else. Amen.

#### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, with this food give us strength to care for the needs of others as you care for us each and every day, in the name of Jesus, our crucified Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### A Blessing to Give:

May you take delight in the wisdom of God through our crucified Lord Jesus Christ.



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FEBRUARY 5, 2023  
HYMN OF THE WEEK  
*Lift High the Cross*



**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:

- What motivates people to show they are more powerful than others?
- How does God show wisdom and power through the crucifixion of Jesus Christ?

### DEVOTIONS

*Read: 1 Corinthians 2:1-16.*

The Corinthian church was a divided church. Some thought they had superior wisdom or superior spiritual gifts. Paul rejects such claims by focusing on God's wisdom revealed through Jesus Christ. Jesus was crucified and died a criminal's death at the hands of earthly powers. Those who believe they have superior wisdom and gifts totally miss the point and rely on human standards—human wisdom—not God's. Paul's own ministry demonstrates the wisdom of God that seems like foolishness to the world. Paul did not use impressive speech. He used the message of Christ crucified, a message made powerful by the Holy Spirit, not human rhetoric. To be truly "spiritual," and therefore a blessing to the church, one needs to be grounded in spiritual wisdom that understands the power of the cross. This power can look like weakness. The very standards the arrogant use to feel superior shows their dependence on the powers and wisdom of the current age, not the power and wisdom of God through Christ crucified.

Discuss: Being forgiven can look like weakness. How can it be a powerful gift to the life of the church?

Pray: **Almighty God, help us to see that in the death of Jesus your power is present to guide our daily lives and bring faith, hope, and love to all the world. Amen.**

### SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you help people who feel put down by others?

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Where Christ is present in faith, the home is church, too! God is present in our daily lives. The home is where people are connected in intimate daily settings. Where we call home can be diverse. Matthew 5:15-16 reminds us that we don't hide the light of a lamp under a basket. We place it where "it gives light to all in the house." Jesus tells us we are the light of the world and invites us to shine our light so that others may see our good works and give glory to God. Light a candle each day this week. While you gaze at the light, think or talk about what "good works" (v. 16) you have done that day and how what you did gives glory to God.



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)