



*"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)

**Sunday Morning Worship**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**January 10, 2021**

## Baptism of Our Lord

**Prayer Before Worship:** Send down your Holy Spirit, O God—tear open the veil of heaven and speak to us as beloved children so that we may hear and believe the good news of your Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*(In preparation for our worship together, 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 online today,  
we are glad to have you with us.*

### Prelude Music

### Welcome and Announcements

### ‡WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS‡

\*Opening Hymn:

“Baptized and Set Free”

ELW #453  
vv. 1,3&4

**1. We are people created, chosen by God.  
Then we're washed, ever gently, in mercy and love.  
Sin has power no more. Jesus opened the door  
to a fountain bringing healing, and wholeness and more.**

**3. We are nourished by water, all living things,  
and by life that the Spirit abundantly brings.  
As we journey toward home, may your presence be known:  
precious river, ever-flowing, now carry us home.**

**4. Now with praise and thanksgiving, we join the song.  
All are welcome! We gather to sing loud and strong.  
Not enslaved, but set free! From now on, all will be  
one in Jesus, one in water, baptized and set free!**

### **\*Thanksgiving for Baptism**

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*(Water is poured into the font as the congregation gives thanks)*

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

**Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.**

At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

**We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace and love.**

To you be given honor and praise through † Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **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.**

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

Holy God,

**you poured out your Spirit upon your beloved Son, showing the people that he belonged to you. Send this same Spirit to us as a sign of our baptism and belonging as your beloved children so that we might be faithful in our calling to be proclaimers of Christ's love and light, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## ‡GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO US‡

### Old Testament Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup>Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

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

### Psalm 29

<sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.  
<sup>2</sup>**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;  
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**  
<sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;  
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.  
<sup>4</sup>**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;  
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**  
<sup>5</sup>The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;  
<sup>6</sup>**the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**  
<sup>7</sup>The voice of the LORD  
bursts forth in lightning flashes.  
<sup>8</sup>**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**  
<sup>9</sup>The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.  
And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"  
<sup>10</sup>**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**  
<sup>11</sup>O LORD, give strength to your people;  
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

## Epistle Reading: Acts 19:1-7

<sup>1</sup>While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. <sup>2</sup>He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." <sup>3</sup>Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." <sup>4</sup>Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." <sup>5</sup>On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied — <sup>7</sup>altogether there were about twelve of them.

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

## \*Gospel Verse

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

## \*Gospel: Mark 1:4-11

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

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

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

*(Silence for Reflection and Meditation.)*

‡**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**‡

**\*Hymn of the Day: "Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized"**

**ELW #304  
vv. 1&2**

- 1. Christ, when for us you were baptized,  
God's Spirit on you came,  
as peaceful as a dove, and yet  
as urgent as a flame,  
as urgent as a flame.**
  
- 2. God called you, "My beloved Son";  
you are God's servant true,  
sent to proclaim the reign of heav'n,  
God's holy will to do,  
God's holy will to do.**

**\*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:*

Let us pray...**Have mercy, O God.**

*The prayers conclude with:*

...your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

**\*Exchange of Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**\*Offertory Prayer**

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

**O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. Amen.**

**‡HOLY COMMUNION & DISMISSAL‡**

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

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

**Words of Institution**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever, and ever. Amen.**

**Invitation to Communion**

Beloved: here is bread; here is wine. Here is Jesus. Come and be fed.

**Distribution of Communion:**

*For those interested in receiving Holy Communion, please meet the communion servers in the parking lot for Drive-Through Communion immediately following the worship service this morning from approximately 10:45 a.m.-11:15 a.m.*

**“Beautiful Star of Bethlehem”**

**Choir**

**\*Post-Communion Blessing**

**\*Post-Communion Prayer**

God of glory, in this sacrament you unite us in the body of your Son. May we who have been guests at this table grow in love for one another, that through us your light may shine in all the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**‡WE DEPART TO SERVE‡**

**\*Benediction**

May God, who led the magi to Christ by the shining of a star,  
Accompany you on your journey this day and always.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ‡ give you peace. **Amen.**

**\*Sending Hymn:**

**“Beautiful Savior”**

**ELW #838  
vv.1&2**

**1. Beautiful Savior,  
King of creation,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I'd love thee,  
truly I'd serve thee,  
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.**

**2. Fair are the meadows,  
fair are the woodlands,  
robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer,  
Jesus is purer,  
he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.**

## \*Dismissal

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

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Geraldine Bartel, 1/11

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

## ✝In Our Thoughts and Prayers✝

Prayers for healing: **Bonnie** (pneumonia & fluid around her heart—cousin of Susan Martin), **Beth Janecek** (Treatment), **Rich** (COVID-19 recovery—brother of Barb Gorr), **Cathy Rahrs** (rehab @ home), **Gary Eskam** (pneumonia - non COVID related), **Nancy & Bill Steele** (COVID-19 health issues), **Harlan Meyer** (Lonnie Miller's uncle), **Shelia Colson** (hospitalized—mother-in-law of Nannie Walsh's sister), **Claudia** (bedrest for pregnancy), **Jerry Weekes** (recovering from a horse accident), **Reuben & Gloria Gorr** (health issues), **Alan** (recovery of vision—Kathy Randall's cousin), **Jordan Hein** (cancer treatment—former member of Calvary), **Michael Dietrich** (friend of Dave & Penny Stevens), **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 comfort and peace for: Family and friends of **Joann Pullen** (friend of Elnora Sell), **Rachel Sabala** (friend of Gail Bruflat).

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, 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.

## YOUR GIVING ONLINE

GIVE+Mobile

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 **Give+Church 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.



**Fighting  
Malaria**



## **WOMEN OF THE ELCA JANUARY MISSION PROJECT:**

The WELCA mission project for January will be the ELCA Malaria Campaign. \$10 can purchase a treated mosquito net, \$50 provides medicine for 25 people, and \$100 trains a village health team. Donations may be made. Be sure to designate WELCA on the envelope.

**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, 2021.



**Please watch every week for an email with the kid's sermon by Angie with fun activities for the kids to stay involved!**

Due to COVID-19 concerns JAM has been suspended until further notice.

## **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](http://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.

Please see the January Newsletter for more information!



### **6 Weeks on Money-a digital course for ELCA congregations, individuals and families**

Many people suffer post-Christmas guilt realizing they spent more than they should have and come January trying to figure out how to pay for it. The ELCA invites you to participate in a new six-week digital course on money and faith to help you learn how to avoid the cycle of financial strain and the rollercoaster ride when it comes to finances. Discover how a grace-filled way of thinking and feeling about money can bring hope and freedom to strengthen your relationship with Jesus and enhance your generosity.

If interested, please talk to Pastor Chris ASAP!

Please see the January Newsletter for more information!



## Lutheran Disaster Response

### Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



### Lutheran Disaster Response

Wildfires in the West. Hurricanes in the South. Tornadoes in the Midwest. Covid-19. Throughout our nation and around the world, disaster strikes with alarming frequency and sometimes it can feel as if we are helpless in the face of it all. But whenever and wherever disaster strikes, you are there through the work of Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR), not only in the immediate aftermath but also long after the disaster has faded from the headlines. Your donations to the work of LDR are critical in allowing LDR to make a difference when disaster strikes. If you have not already done so, please consider making a donation to Lutheran Disaster Response either by going to: <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response> or by making a donation to Calvary specifically earmarked for Lutheran Disaster Response or if you wish you can even be more specific by writing 'wildfires', 'hurricanes', etc. in your memo line. And remember, 100% of what you donate will go for disaster response!



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*Connecting faith & finances for good.™*

### Thrivent Financial

Are you a Thrivent member? And if you are, do you know that as a Thrivent member (depending on what investments or products you have with Thrivent) you might have Thrivent Choice dollars that you can designate to a non-profit ministry of your choice including Calvary Lutheran and hundreds of other ministries every year? And that you also have at least \$250 dollars (and possibly \$500) per year that you can choose to kickstart a Thrivent Action Project that can make a difference in our church or community.

For example, this fall a member of Calvary used their \$250 to purchase the backpacks and some of the supplies that were used to fill the School Backpacks for Lutheran World Relief. To direct your Thrivent Choice dollars, start a Thrivent Action Project or simply to learn more go to: <https://www.thrivent.com/what-we-offer/generosity/>, talk to Pastors Chris or Sheryl or talk to your Thrivent agent.



**LIVE  
GENEROUSLY** 

## WORSHIP LEADERS

**Pastors Chris and Sheryl Kester Beyer**

### **This Sunday – January 10**

**USHERS:** Deb Brown & Jack Martin

**LAY READER:** Marti Wegelin

**COMMUNION ASST:** Bill Huelle

**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:** Wally Randall

### **Next Sunday – January 17**

**USHERS:** Vicki Howell & LaDonna Schmidt

**LAY READER:** Susan Martin

**COMMUNION ASST:** Colter Burkey

**POWERPOINT:** Matt Payne

**MEDIA:** Jeff Van Patten

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

**PIANIST:** Dee Brady

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **Sunday, January 10**

10 a.m. – Worship

10:45-11:15 a.m. – Drive Through Communion

### **Monday, January 11**

2 p.m. – Priscilla Circle @ Calvary's Education Wing

6 p.m. – Council Meeting via Zoom

7 p.m. – Hannah Circle @ Calvary's Education Wing

### **Tuesday, January 12**

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

9 a.m. – Esther Circle

12 p.m. – Women's Study @ Calvary

1 p.m. – Quilting

7 p.m. – Pastor's Bible Study

### **Wednesday, January 13**

7 p.m. – Choir Practice

### **Saturday, January 16**

9 a.m. – Trustees Meeting

### **Sunday, January 17**

10 a.m. – Worship

10:45-11:15 a.m. – Drive Through Communion

JANUARY 10, 2021  
BAPTISM OF  
OUR LORD



*Jesus is God's beloved, and so are we.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Mark 1:4-11	The baptism of Jesus
Monday	Genesis 1:1-5	God creates light
Tuesday	Acts 19:1-7	Paul baptizes in Ephesus
Wednesday	Mark 15:33-39	Death of Jesus
Thursday	Ephesians 4:1-6	Unity in the body of Christ
Friday	Galatians 3:19-29	The purpose of the law
Saturday	Psalms 29	The voice of God in the storm
Sunday	John 1:43-51	Jesus calls Philip and Nathanael

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." Mark 1:11 (NRSV)*

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Dear God, we thank you for Jesus, your Beloved Son and our Savior and for claiming us in baptism as your loved children now and always. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

God of tender care, as we are given strength from this meal, may we remember with joy that we are your beloved children through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the Lord give you strength and bless you with peace. (Psalm 29:11)



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For a larger printable 'Taking Faith Home' go to our website [calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org](http://calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org)

JANUARY 10, 2021  
HYMN OF THE WEEK  
*You are Mine*



### **WEEKLY MILESTONES**

Take a moment to tall 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 is a dramatic event you have witnessed or heard about?
- Have you experienced a baptism as a life-changing event? Explain.
- How was Jesus' baptism a life-changing event for the world?

### **DEVOTIONS**

Read: Mark 1:4-11.

Jesus' baptism is marked by dramatic events: Not only did Jesus go out to John in the wilderness, but so did "all the people of Jerusalem" (v. 5). John, who has a strong following acknowledges that Jesus, the one to come after John, is so much more important, that John is not worthy to untie Jesus' sandals. Jesus' own baptizing will bring with it the Holy Spirit, not just the call to repentance, as was the baptism of John. The Holy Spirit will make Jesus' baptism and the Christian baptism different (see Acts 19:1-7). Then, the most dramatic moment happens, the moment that defines Jesus' baptism as a cosmic shattering event: the heavens were torn apart and the Spirit of God came down, appearing like a dove. The tearing apart of the heavens will be matched by the tearing apart of the curtain in the temple at the time of Jesus' death (Mark 15:38). Jesus' baptism is linked with the cosmic shattering event of his death that changes for all time our relationship to God. This is something that we participate in through our own baptisms, another earth-shattering experience filled with love that claims us as God's beloved children. Is being claimed by God in baptism earth shattering to you? Why or why not?

**Pray:** God of glory and might, help us to see and believe in your earth-shattering power and love for us and to see that love embrace us in the remembrance of our baptisms. Amen.

### **SERVICE**

The baptism of Jesus took place using water. Water is essential to life. It is important that rivers, lakes, and oceans stay clean but they can get and have been contaminated by people's actions. What are some things we can do to help keep our waters clean and free of pollution?

### **RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**

The "baptism of our Lord Sunday" is a time to recall our own baptisms. This week in your home, light a candle, perhaps your own baptismal candle. Dip your fingers into a bowl of water and mark the sign of the cross on your forehead or the foreheads of one another. As you mark the sign of the cross, give this blessing:  
*Say:* You are God's beloved child.



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)