



"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.
January 12, 2025

Baptism of Our Lord

A Warm Welcome to all as we gather as God's people to worship our Lord. We pray our worship together would strengthen your faith and desire to know and serve the One who loves us with an everlasting love as made known to us in Jesus Christ.

*Visitors, if you are worshipping with us today, we are glad to have you with us.
Please join us again soon!*

(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

**“If I Believe In Jesus” (Dakota Road)
“What Wondrous Love Is This”**

ELW #666

Welcome and Announcements

‡WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS‡

*Welcome Song:

“Shall We Gather at the River”

ELW #423

**1. Shall we gather at the river,
where bright angel feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever
flowing by the throne of God?**

**Refrain: Yes, we'll gather at the river,
the beautiful, the beautiful river;
gather with the saints at the river
that flows by the throne of God.**

**2. On the margin of the river,
washing up its silver spray,
we will walk and worship ever,
all the happy golden day. Refrain**

**3. Ere we reach the shining river,
lay we ev'ry burden down;
grace our spirits will deliver,
and provide a robe and crown. Refrain**

**4. Soon we'll reach the shining river,
soon our pilgrimage will cease;
soon our happy hearts will quiver
with the melody of peace. Refrain**

***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.**

Chorus

**Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.**

**1. When I feel afraid,
And I think I've lost my way,
Still You're there right beside me,
Nothing will I fear
As long as You are near.
Please be near me to the end.**

Chorus

**Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.**

***Prayer of the Day**

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, 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: Isaiah 43:1-7

¹ But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³ For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴ Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life.

⁵Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—
⁷everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29

Read Responsively

¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**²Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

**⁴The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

**⁶the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

⁷The voice of the LORD
bursts forth in lightning flashes.

**⁸The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

⁹The 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!"

**¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

¹¹O LORD, give strength to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

Second Reading: Acts 8:14-17

¹⁴Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them.¹⁵The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus).¹⁷Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation**

“Emmanuel”
(Sung Twice)

W&P #36

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
His name is called Emmanuel;
God with us, revealed in us;
His name is called Emmanuel.**

***Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

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

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. 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.

Kids Sermon:

Christine Howlett

Sermon:

Pastor Kathy

(Silence for reflection and meditation)

‡WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD‡

***Song of the Day:**

"I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry"

WOV #770

1. "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell."

2. "When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
you were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun."

3. "In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been,
with just one more surprise."

4. "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold."

***Profession of Faith**

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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 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.

***Affirmation by the Assembly**

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us pray. We give thanks, O God that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

***Prayers of the Church:**

“Cares Chorus”
(Sung Prayer Response)

W&P #27

Chorus
I cast all my cares upon You;
I lay all of my burdens
Down at Your feet.
And anytime that I don't know
What to do,
I will cast all my cares upon You.

***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

“Were You There on That Christmas Night?”

Choir

***Offertory Prayer**

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. **Amen.**

†HOLY COMMUNION†

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

***The Great Thanksgiving**

ELW Page 144

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***Words of Institution**

We give you thanks, Father, ... in your Holy church, both 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

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. All is ready and all are welcome.

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.

APPLE JUICE and GLUTEN FREE WAFERS are available. Just ask the server.

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

Distribution Music

"Spirit Song"

W&P #130

"Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken"

ACS #966

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Post-Communion Prayer**

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, **Amen.**

✠WE DEPART TO SERVE✠

***Benediction**

The Spirit of the triune God ✠ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. **Amen.**

1. "Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love's baptismal river
I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own."

2. "Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son's story,
here you touched him, saw his glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure."

3. "Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you,
here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free."

***Dismissal**

Go in peace and love. Live in hope.
Thanks be to God.

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Duane Aschenbrenner, 1/17; Barb Jensen, 1/18

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

‡In Our Thoughts and Prayers‡

Prayers for healing: **Diane Chapman** (cancer treatment—Deb Brown’s cousin), **Sheila Miller** (health issues), **Colton** (PTSD- Laurie Ruzicka’s nephew), **Catherine Rahrs** (major medical issues—Val Rahrs’ mother), **Drew Selck** (surgery & chemo), **Carter & Family** (relatives of Janine Hergenreder), **Marcy Miller** (ongoing health issues), **Tom Smith** (illness), **Joni** (cancer-friend of Laurie Ruzicka), **Lynne** (illness from cancer treatment – friend of Laurie Ruzicka), **Everyone fighting depression** (Jim & Andi Dorn)

Prayers of comfort and peace: **For the family and friends of Randy Schafer.**

Prayers for comfort and safety: **Jeffery Christeleit** (deployed—Brian & Jodi Christeleit’s son and Jim & Sheila Miller’s grandson). **Josh Kasting** (deployed – nephew of Cory & Gretchen Foster).



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.



JANUARY FOOD DONATIONS REQUESTED

FOOD PANTRY: cereal

BACKPACKS: 16oz jars of peanut butter

Containers are located in the hallway by the garden doors.

Thank you for your generosity.



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, 2025.





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

Our Wednesday evening youth group is for kids in kindergarten through 5th grade. We begin with dinner (hot dogs/chips/cuties/grapes) 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 Christine at the church.

Sunday, January 19th

EPIC will meet right after the worship service on January 19th from 11:30am to 1pm for lunch, devotion, and Souper Bowl of Caring planning.



Laundry Love

Calvary partners with St. Francis Episcopal Church and First Presbyterian Church to provide a monthly Laundry Love Event in our community every third month. Calvary will host Laundry Love on January 18th. In preparation for that day, we will need quarters as well as dryer sheets or softener. Laundry detergent has already been donated. So, save your quarters and drop them in the Laundry Bottle outside the pastor's office.



Sound System Operator Needed!!

We are in need of 1 or 2 people who would be willing to run the sound system during worship services, especially on Praise Team Sundays. If interested, please talk to Jim Dorn.



Congregational Annual Meeting

The **Annual Meeting** for Calvary Lutheran Church is scheduled for Sunday, **January 26th** following our 10:00am Worship service.



Get the Tidings in your Inbox!

Calvary Lutheran Church sends out a large amount of Tidings each month that are returned. Are you willing to receive Tidings in your email inbox? Let us know and confirm your email address. We will start sending it out via email in January and will also post it on social media.

If prefer to receive the monthly newsletter via mail, please check with the office to make sure we have your address information up to date.



Grab N' Go Lunch

Thursday, January 23rd

11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.



January Menu:

tortellini casserole
breadstick
dessert bar

Items that will be needed

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 4 -1lb hamburger | 4 – 9x13 inch pan of dessert bars |
| 4 – 1lb shredded mozzarella cheese | 3 – 48 count plastic forks |
| 1 – 24 ounce box rotini macaroni | 2 – cases of 12 count 8oz bottled water |
| 9 – boxes of frozen breadsticks | Have questions? |
| (each box has 6) | Call Becca at (785) 899-6951 |

Please remember to take a “tag” off the bulletin board by the office to provide an item needed for this month’s Grab N’ Go lunch. Dates are listed on the tags for guidance on when to bring the item to church.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Kathy

This Sunday – January 12

USHERS: Monty & Shari Copsey
LAY READER: Vicki Howell
HEAD COMMUNION ASST: Shari Copsey
COMMUNION ASSTS: Gretchen Foster & Angie Hinze
POWERPOINT: Matt Payne
ACOLYTES: Brynlee & Madi Payne
MEDIA: Maunette Loeks
AUDIO: Jeff Van Patten
ALTAR GUILD: Andi Dorn, Shelly Koehler, Allisha Weitzel
PIANIST: Tahnee Hutchinson
COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP: Volunteers needed! Please contact Lynn Margheim!

Next Sunday – January 19

USHERS: Deb Brown & Tracy Steele
LAY READER: Penny Stevens
HEAD COMMUNION ASST: Vicki Howell
COMMUNION ASSTS: Barb Jensen & Abby Newsom
POWERPOINT: Andi Dorn
ACOLYTES: Charlea Fancher and Andrew Miller
MEDIA: Chris Jensen
AUDIO: Jim Dorn
ALTAR GUILD: Abby Newsom, Maunette Loeks, Barb Jensen, Nannie Walsh
ORGANIST: Tahnee Hutchinson
COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP: Volunteers needed! Please contact Lynn Margheim!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, January 12

10 a.m. – Worship
11 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship

Monday, January 13

2 p.m. – Priscilla Circle @ Angie Hinze's Home
5:30 p.m. – Council Meeting

Tuesday, January 14

1 p.m. – Quilting

Wednesday, January 15

5:30 p.m. – JAM
6 p.m. Confirmation
7 p.m. – Choir Practice

Saturday, January 18

12 p.m. – Laundry Love
5:30 p.m. – Worship

Sunday, January 19

10 a.m. – Worship
11 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship
11:30 a.m. – EPIC

JANUARY 12, 2025 BAPTISM OF OUR LORD



God calls us by name.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22	The baptism of Jesus
Monday	Isaiah 43:1-7	Restoration and protection
Tuesday	Acts 8:14-17	Receiving the Holy Spirit
Wednesday	Matthew 3:13-17	Jesus' baptism
Thursday	Colossians 3:12-17	New life in Christ
Friday	Ephesians 4:1-6	Unity in the body of Christ
Saturday	Psalms 29	The voice of the Lord
Sunday	John 2:1-11	The wedding at Cana

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. Isaiah 43:1 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Come Holy Spirit, strengthen us in our baptismal life and feed us with your power to trust that we are loved by God now and always through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may the gift of this food strengthen us to live in peace and faith through Christ Jesus our Lord, God's beloved Son. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you to know that you are loved.



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

JANUARY 12, 2025 HYMN OF THE WEEK *Change My Heart, O God*

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 have you felt abandoned or forgotten? What helped you overcome that feeling?
- The Scriptures tell us that you are God's beloved child. How does this message guide you in your daily life?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Isaiah 43:1-7.

The point being made by Isaiah is that we are known by name. We are not forgotten, and we are loved by the creator and redeemer of all of life. From a Nazi concentration camp in World War II, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, pastor, and theologian, wrote a poem entitled *Who Am I?* He explored his inner thoughts and how others might see him from prison and asked the fundamental question, "Who am I?" He gave us the foundational answer: "Whoever I am, Thou knows, O God, I am thine!" The text from Isaiah 43 is a wonderful one to read and use as a prayer during tough times like when we experience a serious illness, loss, or feel held captive to forces that work against us. God's love is eternal, and no life experience will separate us from the saving love of God. Jesus' baptism identifies him as God's unique Son, the Beloved (Luke 3:22). Through Jesus, our lives matter. Through our baptism, we are reminded of what Isaiah 43 passionately confesses: we are God's and never, ever abandoned or forgotten.

Discuss: How does knowing God's love is eternal and that you are never forgotten help during tough times?

Pray: Gracious God, you turn our sadness into joy; may we remember that you are present in our lives and world to give us hope and peace through Jesus Christ. Amen.

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you show God's love to someone going through a tough time?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Baptism happens in a community of faith with the support of others. In Acts 8:14-17, Peter and John supported the newly baptized. *"The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit"* (v. 15). Think about your own or someone else's baptism. By whom and in what ways are the baptized supported? Draw water drops on a sheet of paper. In each drop, write a way you can support someone who was recently baptized. Take a moment to think or talk about how and when you will show that person support.

Pray: Lord God, in our baptism you call us by name. Thank you for your eternal love. Help us to support one another through our actions, words, and prayers 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