



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

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

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calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org

**Sunday Morning Worship
10:00 a.m.
January 24, 2021**

Third Sunday After Epiphany

Prayer Before Worship: Gracious Father, we hear you calling to us over all of the distractions of our daily lives and we long to hear what you have to say to us. Help us to silence the earthly din and listen to you. 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 in person or online today,
we are glad to have you with us.*

Prelude Music

Welcome and Announcements

✠WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS✠

*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)

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

***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**

Almighty God,

by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

☩ GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO US ☩

First reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you. ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 62:5-12

Read Responsively

⁵For God alone I wait in silence;
truly, my hope is in God.

⁶**God alone is my rock and my salvation,
my stronghold, so that I shall never be shaken.**

⁷In God is my deliverance and my honor;
God is my strong rock and my refuge.

⁸**Put your trust in God always, O people,
pour out your hearts before the one who is our refuge.**

⁹Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath; those of low estate cannot be trusted.
Placed on the scales together they weigh even less than a breath.

¹⁰**Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride;
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.**

¹¹God has spoken once, twice have I heard it,
that power belongs to God.

¹²**Steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord,
for you repay all according to their deeds.**

***Gospel Verse**

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

***Gospel: Mark 1:14-20**

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

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near, repent, and believe in the good news."

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea — for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

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: "Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult"**

**ELW #696
vv. 1&3**

**1. Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult
of our life's wild, restless sea,
day by day his clear voice sounding,
saying, "Christian, follow me":**

**3. Jesus calls us from the worship
of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us,
saying, "Christian, love me more."**

***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:

...your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

***Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

***Offering 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

Come, for the gifts of God are ready for the people 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 one station in the front of the church with the pulpit side of the church being dismissed first.

WHITE GRAPE JUICE and GLUTEN FREE WAFERS are available. Just ask the server. Children who are not yet communicants are invited to come forward for a blessing.)

For those worshipping with us online who are interested in receiving Holy Communion, Drive-Through Communion will be available in the parking lot immediately following the worship service this morning from approximately 10:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Distribution Music:

Rhonda Boettcher

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Post-Communion Prayer**

Christ Jesus, at this table we have feasted on your very life and are strengthened for our journey. Send us forth from this banquet nourished in body and in spirit to proclaim your good news and serve others in your name. **Amen.**

‡WE DEPART TO SERVE‡

***Benediction**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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

***Sending Hymn:**

“I Love to Tell the Story”

**ELW #661
vv. 1&2**

**1. I love to tell the story
of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory,
of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story,
because I know it's true;
it satisfies my longings
as nothing else would do.**

***Refrain:* I love to tell the story;
'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.**

**2. I love to tell the story:
how pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it,
more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story,
for some have never heard
the message of salvation
from God's own holy word.**

Refrain

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Hymns: Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult: Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895 ©Public Domain; **I Love to Tell the Story:** Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911 ©Public Domain

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Abby Newsom, 1/27; Kaetlyn Todd, 1/27; Christa Fulk, 1/29

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



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.

✝In Our Thoughts and Prayers✝

Prayers for healing: **LaDonna Schmidt** (colon cancer), **Bill Steele** (Hospitalized), **Gary Eskam** (heart/lung health), **Bonnie** (pneumonia & fluid around her heart—cousin of Susan Martin), **Beth Janecek** (Radiation), **Rich** (COVID-19 recovery—brother of Barb Gorr), **Cathy Rahrs** (rehab @ home), **Nancy & Tracy 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), **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 **David Nikont** (Marj Nikont's nephew).

Prayers for our church, community, nation, and world: in this time of Covid-19 and general unsettledness. For everyone in need!

YOUR GIVING ONLINE



Scan the QR code to the right, go to our website: www.calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org and click on the **Give Online** button OR download the **Give+Church App** on your smartphone. It's safe and secure.



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.



Congregational Annual Meeting

Our Congregational Annual Meeting will be January 31st at 11:15 a.m.
Executive Board will decide on January 24th if the meeting will be conducted in person or via Zoom.

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. (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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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.



WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastors Chris and Sheryl Kester Beyer

This Sunday – January 24

USHERS: Dennis & Barb Gorr

LAY READER: Chris Jensen

COMMUNION ASST: Bill Huelle

POWERPOINT: Andy Dorn

MEDIA: Maunette Loeks-Van Patten

ALTAR GUILD: Andi Dorn, Shelly Koehler

ORGANIST: Rhonda Boettcher

SONG LEADER: Jack Martin

Next Sunday – January 31

USHERS: Kent & Dawn Holub

LAY READER: Angie Hinze

COMMUNION ASST: Dennis Gorr

POWERPOINT: Jack Martin

MEDIA: Jeff Van Patten

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

PIANIST: Dee Brady

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, January 24

10 a.m. – Worship

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

Monday, January 25

5 p.m. – Parish Ed Meeting

Tuesday, January 26

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

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

7 p.m. – Pastor's Bible Study

Wednesday, January 27

7 p.m. – Choir Practice

Sunday, January 31

10 a.m. – Worship

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

11:15 a.m. – Annual Meeting

JANUARY 24, 2021
THIRD SUNDAY
AFTER EPIPHANY



There is peace in waiting for God.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

| | | |
|------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Sunday | Mark 1:14-20 | Jesus calls the first disciples |
| Monday | Jonah 3:1-5, 10 | Jonah goes to Nineveh |
| Tuesday | 1 Corinthians 7:29-35 | Live without anxiety |
| Wednesday | Philippians 4:4-7 | Paul encourages his co-workers |
| Thursday | Isaiah 40:26-31 | The Lord gives strength |
| Friday | Joshua 1:1-9 | The Lord speaks to Joshua |
| Saturday | Psalms 62:5-12 | God is powerful and kind |
| Sunday | Mark 1:21-28 | Jesus teaches in the synagogue |

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

Psalms 62:5-6 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, my soul waits for you in silence; let me wait for you with confidence, peace, and hope through Jesus Christ. Amen. (Psalms 62:5-6)

Mealtime Prayer:

In peace we eat this food before us; in faith we receive this food with thanksgiving. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the steadfast love of God be yours as you place your trust in the good news of Jesus Christ. (Psalms 62:12 and Mark 1:14)



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

JANUARY 24, 2021
HYMN OF THE WEEK
He Comes to Us As One Unknown



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 are some things that distract you and lead you to worry?
- How might God want you to deal with your worries?
- Why do you think the psalmist encourages us to wait for God's presence in silence? (Psalms 62:5)

DEVOTIONS

Read: 1 Corinthians 7:29-35.

The lectionary text ends at verse 31, but without verses 32-35, the heart of Paul's thought can be missed. Paul originally anticipated that Christ's return would happen in his own lifetime. Attention to marital matters, grief over the death of a loved one, concern for possessions, and daily schedules and responsibilities detract from the higher attention to "devotion to the Lord" (v. 35). What is helpful for us today is to be reminded that routine tasks can dominate our thoughts and we can miss the greater joy and calm that is ours through Christ. Our lives are finally not measured by the demands of the day but by the steadfast love and faithfulness of God that is shown to us in Christ Jesus our Lord. Yes, be responsible for the sake of the love of neighbor, but do not be defined by any accomplishments or failures. Be known, understood, and loved as a child of the risen Lord. Then we are able to hear the heart of Paul's message in verse 32: "I want you to be free from anxieties... Be free, be attentive, be faithful, and, of course, experience God's grace, mercy, and peace, not anxiety or fear. Indeed, isn't this part of what Simon and Andrew and James and John experienced when they walked away from the beach to follow Jesus in Mark 1:14-20? When have you been able to let go of anxiety because of the greater good that God has in store for you?"

Pray: God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow, give us peace to see you in the midst of all things, and let us be devoted to you through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SERVICE

There is much anxiety in people's lives. Seek out someone you know who is experiencing frustrations or worries. Take time to listen to them and offer them a prayer of hope and comfort.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Contemplative prayer is a form of prayer that does not ask for specific requests. It is simply an openness to God's presence and what God may want to say to the person praying. Cross your arms over your body and breathe in saying: Bless me with peace. O Lord. As you exhale say: Thank you for your peace. O Lord. Do this several times and then sit in silence until you feel ready to conclude with: Amen.



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