



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

"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.
July 16, 2023

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

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 increase your 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

**“Morning has Broken”
“Father Welcomes”**

**ELW #556
BOB #52**

Welcome and Announcements

‡WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS‡

Welcome Song:

“Good Soil”

W&P #52

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,
open to the seed of your word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil.**

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

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Righteous God,

we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Song of Praise:

"Lord, Be Glorified"

**W&P #89
vv. 1&2**

- 1. In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified today.**
- 2. In our song, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
In our song, Lord, be glorified today.**

***Greeting**

The grace of our risen 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,

we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

‡GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO US‡

First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;

it shall not return to me empty,

but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,

and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹²For you shall go out in joy,

and be led back in peace;

the mountains and the hills before you

shall burst into song,

and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;

instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;

and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,

for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 65:9-13

⁹You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water. You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

¹⁰**You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;**

with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

¹¹You crown the year with your goodness,

and your paths overflow with plenty.

¹²**May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,**

and the hills be clothed with joy.

¹³May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing.

Second Reading: Romans 8:1-11

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation:**

“Open our eyes, Lord”

W&P #113

**Open our eyes, Lord; we want to see Jesus,
To reach out and touch Him, and say that we love Him.
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.**

***Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

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

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying:

"Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!"

¹⁸Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

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

Kid's Sermon:

Angie Hinze

Sermon:

PMA Bill Huelle

(Silence for Reflection and Meditation.)

‡WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD‡

Song of the Day:

"Seed, Scattered and Sown"

W&P #121

Refrain: **Seed, scattered and sown;
Wheat, gathered and grown;
Bread, broken and shared as one,
The living Bread of God.
Vine, fruit of the land;
Wine, work of our hands
One cup that is shared by all;
The living Cup,
The living Bread of God.**

**1. Is not the bread we break a sharing in our Lord?
Is not the cup we bless the blood of Christ outpoured? *Refrain***

**2. The seed which falls on rock will wither and will die.
The seed within good ground will flower and have life. *Refrain***

**3. As wheat uponn the hills was gathered and was grown,
so may the church of God be gathered into one. *Refrain***

***Profession of Faith: The Apostles Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***Prayers of the Church:**

Each petition ends with:

Hear us, O God,... **your mercy is great.**

The prayers conclude:

....in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

***Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

***Offertory Song:**

“Blessing, Honor, and Glory”

ELW #433

**Blessing, honor, glory to the Lamb.
Holy, righteous, worthy is the Lamb.**

**Death could not hold him down,
for he is risen!**

**Seated upon the throne,
he is the Lamb of God!**

**Blessing, honor, glory to the Lamb.
Holy, righteous, worthy is the Lamb.**

**Death could not hold him down,
for he is risen!**

**Seated upon the throne,
he is the Lamb of God!**

**Blessing, honor, glory to the Lamb.
Holy, righteous, worthy is the Lamb of God.**

***Offertory Prayer**

God of field and forest, sea and sky,

**you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,
and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

✠HOLY COMMUNION✠

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

All people are called to Christ's table.
Come, eat what is good.

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.)

Distribution Song:

"One Bread, One Body"

ELW #496

*Refrain: One bread, one body,
one Lord of all.*

**One cup of blessings which we bless.
And we, though many,
throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.**

**1. Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more. *Refrain***

**2. Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord, of all. *Refrain***

**3. Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one, for all. *Refrain***

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Post-Communion Prayer**

We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

‡WE DEPART TO SERVE‡

***Benediction**

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed ‡ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.
Amen.

***Sending Song:**

“Bring forth the kingdom”

W&P #22

- 1. You are salt for the earth, O people:
Salt for the Kingdom of God!
Share the flavor of life, O people:
Life in the Kingdom of God!
Bring forth the Kingdom of mercy,
Bring forth the Kingdom of peace;
Bring forth the Kingdom of justice,
Bring forth the City of God!**
- 2. You are a light on the hill, O people:
Light for the City of God!
Shine so holy and bright, O people:
Shine for the Kingdom of God!
Bring forth the Kingdom of mercy,
Bring forth the Kingdom of peace;
Bring forth the Kingdom of justice,
Bring forth the City of God!**
- 3. You are a seed of the Word, O people:
Bring forth the Kingdom of God!
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice,
Grow in the Kingdom of God!**

**Bring forth the Kingdom of mercy,
Bring forth the Kingdom of peace;
Bring forth the Kingdom of justice,
Bring forth the City of God!**

**4. We are a blest and a pilgrim people:
Bound for the Kingdom of God!
Love our journey and love our homeland:
Love is the Kingdom of God!
Bring forth the Kingdom of mercy,
Bring forth the Kingdom of peace;
Bring forth the Kingdom of justice,
Bring forth the City of God!**

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.

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In Our Thoughts and Prayers✝

Prayers for healing: **Kathy Johnson** (health issues), **Tom Bosshardt** (hip replacement recovery), **Jerry** (upcoming surgery), **Nancy** (cancer), **Joni** (cancer), **Amy** (cancer), **Marsha Bueide** (recovering), **William Gibbs** (Cancer—brother of Larry Gibbs), **Vicki Schmidt** (cancer treatment), **Susan Martin** (recovering from a fall), **Linda Spomer** (healing/pain from broken back), **Neal Blomenkamp** (recovering), **Catherine Rahrs** (Val Rahrs' mother), **Patty** (cancer—Jim Dorn's sister-in-law).

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Mary Jo Huelle, 7/21; Amanda Cochran, 7/21; Chris Jensen, 7/22; Nickie Todd, 7/23

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 and click on the
Give Online button OR download the **Vanco Now**
App on your smartphone. It's safe and secure.



JULY FOOD DONATIONS REQUESTED

FOOD PANTRY: Cereal

BACKPACKS: Packaged Treats

Containers are located outside Fellowship Hall.

Thanks for your generosity.



CLCW July Mission Project

Back to School Supplies

We are collecting school supplies for needy Calvary families and the Lakota Center families. Suggested items: pencils, erasers, crayons, spiral notebooks, or cash donations.



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.





3rd ANNUAL BBQ-LESS BBQ

*Our BBQ-Less BBQ is going on through the end of July!
A suggested \$75 donation*

All donations will go to our contingency fund to provide a financial cushion during our search for a minister.

Wes and Elnora Sell celebrated their **72nd Wedding Anniversary** on July 15th. If you see this wonderful couple wish them a Happy Anniversary.



Vacation Bible School

July 20 - July 22

July 20

Dinner: 5:30-6 p.m.

VBS: 6-8 p.m.

July 21

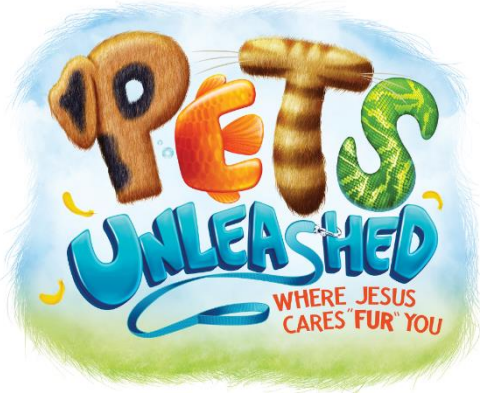
Dinner: 5:30-6 p.m.

VBS: 6-8 p.m.

July 22

VBS: 9-11:30 a.m.

Picnic lunch: 11:30 a.m.-12 p.m.



Church Directory

We will be printing a small amount of the church directories for the people who would like one. If you would like one, please call or email the church office.

WORSHIP LEADERS

This Sunday – July 16

USHERS: Deb Brown & Vicki Howell
LAY READER: Vicki Howell
HEAD COMMUNION ASST: Vicki Howell
COMMUNION ASSTS: Deb Brown & Marlene Downer
POWERPOINT: Shawna Payne
ACOLYTES: Ben Moravec & Brynlee Payne
MEDIA: Maunette Loeks-Van Patten
AUDIO: Jack Martin
ALTAR GUILD: Andi Dorn, Shelly Koehler
PIANIST: Tahnee Hutchinson
COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP: *Please sign up!*

Next Sunday – July 23

USHERS: Monty & Shari Copsey
LAY READER: Angie Hinze
HEAD COMMUNION ASST: Jack Martin
COMMUNION ASSTS: Abby Newsom
POWERPOINT: Mary Jo Huelle
ACOLYTES: Rhyan Buckley & DaKota Newsom
MEDIA: Chris Jensen
AUDIO: Jim Dorn
ALTAR GUILD: Abby Newsom, Maunette Loeks-Van Patten, Barb Jensen, Nannie Walsh
ORGANIST: Rhonda Boettcher
COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP: *Please sign up!*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, July 16

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

Monday, July 17

5 p.m. – Elders
6 p.m. – Worship & Music
6 p.m. – Stewards

Tuesday, July 18

1 p.m. – Quilting

Thursday, July 20

5:30 p.m. – VBS Dinner
6-8 p.m. – VBS

Friday, July 21

5:30 p.m. – VBS Dinner
6-8 p.m. – VBS

Saturday, July 22

9-11:30 a.m. – VBS
11:30 a.m.-12 p.m. – VBS Picnic Lunch
5:30 p.m. – Worship

Sunday, July 23

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

JULY 16, 2023
SEVENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



God's word makes a difference for our lives.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23	Parable of the sower
Monday	Isaiah 55:10-13	God's word is powerful
Tuesday	Romans 8:1-11	Life in the Spirit
Wednesday	2 Timothy 3:10-17	Paul's charge to Timothy
Thursday	Joshua 1:1-9	God's commission to Joshua
Friday	Hebrews 4:8-13	The rest that God has promised
Saturday	Psalms 65	Thanksgiving for earth's bounty
Sunday	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43	Parable of the weeds

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"
Matthew 13:8-9 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:
Creative God, your word accomplishes all that you desire; we thank you for your work of love that brings hope and healing through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:
Almighty God, by your strength you bring forth food from the earth. Thank you for the abundant harvest that we enjoy today. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:
May God's creative word bear fruit in your life through Christ.



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

JULY 16, 2023
HYMN OF THE WEEK
*Lord, Let My Heart
Be Good Soil*



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 do you think it takes to be a good gardener and have a successful harvest?
 - We can receive God's word in worship, by reading the Bible, and through prayer and conversations. What is a favorite way for you to receive God's word?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23.

Jesus compares the sower's seed to God's word that bears much fruit. The seed needs to be planted in good soil to grow. Jesus compares the soil to our lives and our ability to hear and receive God's word. We can wonder if we are the good soil that receives God's word, but it may be that at different times we exhibit all four soils: There are times God's word doesn't stick (the path); sometimes it takes root but quickly dries up (rocky ground); sometimes the word gets smothered by competing concerns (thorns); sometimes the word takes root and produces much fruit (good soil). Our lives can experience all of these moments. This parable can be a humble reminder for us to be open to God's word so that our lives bear the fruit of love and peace. No matter how God's word bears fruit in our lives, it grows into a surprising harvest.

Discuss: How and when are you most attentive to God's word in your life?

Pray: Dear God, you who are the source of all living things, bless us with faith in your word and your work in our lives to bless the world through Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you serve others with the power of God's healing and forgiveness?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Gather four small pots: Fill the first with gravel to represent a path, the second with rocks, the third with thorns or thistles, and the fourth with good soil. Tell the parable of the sower in your own words. As you hold each pot, pray: Lord God, keep us from having hearts that are hard, like a path. Keep us from having hearts that are shallow, like soil on rocky ground. Keep us from having hearts that are easily choked, like seeds among thorns. Instead, make our hearts like good soil, so that we gladly receive your word and accept it. Amen.



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