



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 25, 2021

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

Prayer Before Worship: Holy God, may your Word give us the power to comprehend, with all the saints, the length and width, the height and depth of the love of Christ and fullness of life in 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.)

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.

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. **Amen.**

***Glory to God:**

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Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. 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**

Gracious God,

you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

‡GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO US‡

Old Testament Reading: 2 Samuel 11:1-15

¹In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.

²It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. ³David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, "This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite." ⁴So David sent messengers to get her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house. ⁵The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, "I am pregnant."

⁶So David sent word to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent Uriah to David. ⁷When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the people fared, and how the war was going. ⁸Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house, and wash your feet." Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. ⁹But Uriah slept at the entrance of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. ¹⁰When they told David, "Uriah did not go down to his house," David said to Uriah, "You have just come from a journey. Why did you not go down to your house?" ¹¹Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah remain in booths; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a thing." ¹²Then David said to Uriah, "Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the next day, ¹³David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.

¹⁴In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. ¹⁵In the letter he wrote, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 14

¹Fools say in their hearts, "There is no God."

They are corrupt, every deed is vile; there is no one who does any good.

²**The LORD looks down from heaven upon us all,
to see if there is anyone who is wise, who seeks after God.**

³They have all proved faithless; all alike have turned bad;
there is none who does good; no, not one.

⁴**Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers
who eat up my people like bread and do not call upon the LORD?**

⁵See how they tremble with fear,
because God is in the company of the righteous.

⁶**Your aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted,
but the LORD is their refuge.**

⁷Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion!
When the LORD restores the fortunes of the people,
Jacob will rejoice and Israel will be glad.

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 3:14-21

¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, ¹⁷and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. ¹⁸I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation:**

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

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***Scripture Reading: John 6:1-21**

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

¹After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ²A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." ⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, ⁹"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" ¹⁰Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. ¹¹Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹²When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." ¹³So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹⁴When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world." ¹⁵When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself. ¹⁶When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, ¹⁷got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. ¹⁸The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. ²⁰But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." ²¹Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

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

VBS Program:

Angie Hinze

Sermon:

Pastor Chris

(Silence for Reflection and Meditation.)

‡WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD‡

***Hymn of the Day:**

“Break Now the Bread of Life”

ELW #515

**1. Break now the bread of life,
dear Lord, to me,
as once you broke the loaves beside the sea.
Beyond the sacred page
I seek you, Lord;
my spirit waits for you,
O living Word.**

**2. Bless your own word of truth,
dear Lord, to me,
as when you blessed the bread by Galilee.
Then shall all bondage cease,
all fetters fall;
and I shall find my peace,
my All-in-All!**

**3. You are the bread of life,
dear Lord, to me,
your holy word the truth that rescues me.
Give me to eat and live
with you above;
teach me to love your truth,
for you are love.**

***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:

Generous God...hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude with:

... for the sake of your son, Jesus. Amen.

***Exchange of Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

***Offertory Prayer**

Thank you for continuing to support the work of Christ through Calvary Lutheran. The act of offering is an act of worship, wherever and whenever it is done. Having offered ourselves and our gifts to God, let us pray.

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. 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

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 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 Music

Rhonda Boettcher

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Post-Communion Prayer**

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your
own life. In your name we pray. **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:

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

ELW #773

**Precious Lord, take my hand
Lead me on, Let me stand
I'm tired, I am weak I am worn
Through the storm, through the night
Lead me on to the light
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home**

**When my way grows drear precious Lord linger near
When my life is almost gone
Hear my cry, Hear my call
Hold my hand lest I fall
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home**

**When the darkness appears and the night draws near
And the day is past and gone
At the river I stand
Guide my feet, Hold my hand
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home**

***Dismissal**

Go in peace to bear Christ's Love to the world.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Rhonda Boettcher

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Prayer Requests



If you have a prayer request you would like added to the prayers of the people on Sunday morning, you may notify Christy in the church office during the week or during worship use the Attendance and Prayer Request card and pass them towards the center aisle to be picked up by the ushers (for those worshipping with us online you will find the form under the worship tab on our website and prayer requests will be added to the prayer list in the bulletin the following weekend.)

±In Our Thoughts and Prayers±

Prayers for healing: **Maddie Seiler** (successful surgery—friend of Dee Brady), **Liam** (diagnosed with spinal muscular atrophy—Jude Walker’s great grandson), **LaDonna Schmidt** (chemotherapy), **Lorene** (cancer – Mike Belgum’s mother), **Teigen Brunner** (Healing—Deb Brown’s grandson), **Greta Mehling** (Health Issues), **Bruce** (Cancer treatments—friend of Jean Collins & Cathy Johnson), **Reuben & Gloria Gorr** (health issues), **Jordan Hein** (cancer treatment—former member of Calvary), **Julie** (cancer treatment—Travis Miller family), **Joan** (cancer—niece of Marj Nikont), **Patty** (cancer—Jim Dorn’s sister-in-law).

Prayers for: **Austin & Teighlor** (facing hard decision in regards to son Liam—Jude Walker’s granddaughter & husband), **Rebecca E.** (spiritual discernment at her job).



Gail Bruflat, 7/26; Douglas Wollesen, 7/27

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 **Give+Church 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.



WOMEN OF THE ELCA JULY MISSION PROJECT:



D.O.V.E.S.

Our mission this month is monetary support for the D.O.V.E.S. shelter. Domestic Violence is alive in our local communities.

Scottsbluff/Gering provides access to 24 hour crisis hotline and a shelter so those trying to escape abuse may find refuge. The shelter is always grateful for donations for the shelter and to help people set up new households. Household items and personal care items are also needed. Don't forget to collect your unused toiletry items when traveling and staying in hotels. Thank you for your support.



Hybrid Church Webinar Series starting July 26th: Forced to scramble to go online in just a few weeks during the COVID pandemic, the church has discovered the online world is far more than a replacement for the yellow pages. It is a place where genuine community and real ministry happens. "Hybrid" ministry, as its being called will be the new norm for the next season in most congregations' life and ministry. Through this series we will be invited to explore what hybrid ministry might look like for the church in the coming years.

The Church Council would like to invite anyone in the congregation that is interested to join them in the sanctuary for the Hybrid Church Webinar. The Hybrid Church Webinar series consists of 5 sessions on Monday evenings July 26 -August 23 from 6 - 7 p.m. All are welcome.

Donations for new Clavinova (Electric Piano in Sanctuary) Welcomed.

The Electric Piano in the Sanctuary that the Praise Team uses died a couple weeks ago and has had to be replaced. The cost of the new Clavinova was \$5099, of which we already have slightly over half of the funds needed. Any donations to cover the rest of the cost of the Clavinova are definitely welcome. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastors Chris and Sheryl Kester Beyer

This Sunday – July 25

USHERS: Monty & Shari Copsey
LAY READER: LaDonna Schmidt
COMMUNION ASST: Bill Huelle
POWERPOINT: Jack Martin
ACOLYTE: DaKota Newsom
MEDIA: Maunette Loeks-Van Patten
ALTAR GUILD: Deb Brown, Vicki Howell,
Tracy Steele, Shari Copsey
ORGANIST: Rhonda Boettcher

Next Sunday – August 1

PMA: Bill Huelle
USHERS: Deb Brown & Vicki Howell
LAY READER: Angie Hinze
POWERPOINT: Matt Payne
ACOLYTE: Jacey Cochran
MEDIA: Jeff Van Patten
ALTAR GUILD: Andi Dorn, Shelly Koehler
PIANIST: Dee Brady

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, July 25

10 a.m. – Worship with VBS Program

Monday, July 26

6-7 p.m. – Hybrid Church Webinar @
Calvary

Tuesday, July 27

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

Saturday, July 31

5:30 p.m. – Worship

Sunday, August 1

10 a.m. – Worship

JULY 25, 2021
NINTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



Jesus has a power people long to follow.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 6:1-21	Jesus feeds the five thousand
Monday	2 Kings 4:42-44	Elisha feeds one hundred
Tuesday	Ephesians 3:14-21	Christ's love for us
Wednesday	Titus 3:1-11	Maintain good deeds
Thursday	1 Peter 1:8-17	Suffering for doing right
Friday	Ephesians 2:1-10	From death to life
Saturday	Psalms 145:10-18	The Lord is kind and merciful
Sunday	John 6:24-35	Christ, the bread of life

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. John 6:2 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty and living God, we thank you for the way you feed us, heal us, and care for us through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Just as you feed the five thousand on a hillside, we thank you for feeding us and caring for us today. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God of abundance bless you with more than you can imagine. (Ephesians 3:20)

JULY 25, 2021
HYMN OF THE WEEK
*There Is a Wilderness In
God's Mercy*



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:

- Tell or think about a time you have been glad to be part of a crowd.
- Have you ever been afraid when you were part of a large crowd? Explain.
- What are some reasons you like being part of the crowd that follows Jesus?

DEVOTIONS

Read: John 6:1-21.

By the beginning of John 6, Jesus had taught, turned water into wine, healed, and challenged Jewish authorities. The throngs are growing and five thousand have followed him to a hillside. Jesus looks at them, sits them down on a large grassy area, and feeds them like a shepherd tending his flock. His actions remind people of what Elisha (2 Kings 4:42-44) did when he fed large crowds. Jesus being on a mountain side and having powers over the waters of the Sea of Galilee (v.19) reminds others of a role like Moses. It is clear that people are attracted to Jesus and he cares for them with a power that people long to see, long to touch, long to be with. That is the power that has been given to the church to speak and work for people today in Christ's name. Christ's power continues to be present today so that others may follow in the footsteps of the one who brings us healing, hope, and salvation. What have you experienced that makes you want to be a follower of Jesus?
Pray: Dear Jesus, we thank you for coming into our world and our lives to care for us and to feed us with your love. Amen.

SERVICE

Jesus fed the five thousand from just five small loaves and two fish. We know that today in the world many people live with limited food and constant hunger. Give money or volunteer time at your local food bank or other organizations that help those in need of food. Make a list of ways you can support people who do not have enough food.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

*Paul prays for the people, "Bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name" (Ephesians 3:14-15). Prayer is a way to practice our faith. Think or talk about different ways to pray (standing, sitting, folded hands, kneeling). This week practice kneeling for prayer.
Pray: Dear God, I ask to be filled with your presence and to know the love of Christ that the may dwell in my heart forever and ever. Amen.*



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