



CALVARY LUTHERAN
CHURCH ELCA

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

17 East 27th Street
Scottsbluff, NE
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calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org

Sunday Morning Worship
10:00 a.m.
June 13, 2021

Third Sunday After Pentecost

Prayer Before Worship: God of the morning and night, awaken us to know that to be resurrected with Jesus means to die with Christ first. May we recognize you in every moment so that whatever we do, we do for your glory, through Jesus Christ, our way, truth, and life. 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**

O God,

you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

‡GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO US‡

First Reading: 1 Samuel 15:34-16:13

³⁴Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul. ³⁵Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the LORD was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel.

^{16:1}The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ²Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'" ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. ⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." ⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." ⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." ¹¹Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹²He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." ¹³Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 20

¹May the LORD answer you in the day of trouble,
the name of the God of Jacob defend you;

²**send you help from the sanctuary
and strengthen you out of Zion;**

³may the LORD remember all your offerings
and accept your burnt sacrifice;

⁴**grant you your heart's desire
and prosper all your plans.**

⁵We will shout for joy at your victory and unfurl our banners in the name of our God;
may the LORD grant all your requests.

⁶**Now I know that the LORD gives victory to the anointed one;
God will answer out of the holy heaven, gaining victory with a strong right hand.**

⁷Some trust in chariots and some in horses,
but we rely on the name of the LORD our God.

⁸**They collapse and fall down,
but we will arise and stand upright.**

⁹O LORD, give victory to the king
and answer us when we call.

Epistle Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord — ⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

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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***Gospel: Mark 4:26-34**

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

²⁶He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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

Kids Sermon:

Pastor Chris

Sermon:

Pastor Chris

(Silence for Reflection and Meditation.)

‡WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD‡

***Hymn of the Day:**

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

ELW #679

**1. For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God.
For these gifts to ev'ry nation,
thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping,
thanks be to God.**

2. In the just reward of labor,
God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor,
God's will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.

3. For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us,
thanks be to God.

***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.

Service of Recognition and Celebration of Nancy Steele's Twenty-Five Years as a Parish Ministry Associate

Dear Christian friends: Baptized into the priesthood of Christ, we all are called to offer ourselves to the Lord of the Church in thanksgiving for what he has done and continues to do for us. It is our privilege this morning to recognize and celebrate with Nancy her twenty-five years of service as a Parish Ministry Associate not only here at Calvary Lutheran but also as part of the wider church.

A reading from Romans: As in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. (*Romans 12:4-8*)

Recognition of Nancy's Service

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty and gracious God, that you have fed us with heavenly food, the body and blood of your Son, uniting us through him in the communion of the Holy Spirit. We thank you for raising up among us faithful servants in the church of Christ, especially for Nancy as we celebrate her twenty-five years of faithful service as a Parish Ministry Associate. We pray that she may continue to exemplify the gospel in word and deed. Grant that we, with Nancy, may joyfully serve you all our days and finally rejoice in your glory; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

***Prayers of the Church:**

Each petition ends with:

God of harvest....**hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude with:

...for the sake of Jesus Christ we pray. **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.

Gracious God, as grains of wheat are gathered for bread, and grapes together are poured out as wine, so may we be united in your presence through this sacrament of grace. 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.)

***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: “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”**

ELW #547

**1. Sent forth by God's blessing,
our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended.
Oh, now be extended
the fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of Christ's teaching,
receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.
Your grace shall incite us,
your love shall unite us
to work for your kingdom and answer your call.**

**2. With praise and thanksgiving
to God ever-living,
the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face—
our faith ever sharing,
in love ever caring,
embracing God's children, the whole human race.
With your feast you feed us,
with your light now lead us;
unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living
with praise and thanksgiving
give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.**

***Dismissal**

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

Postlude

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✠In Our Thoughts and Prayers✠

Prayers for healing: **LaDonna Schmidt** (chemotherapy), **Lorene** (cancer – Mike Belgum's mother), **Deb** (knee replacement surgery—Janet Miller's sister), **Teigen Brunner** (Healing—Deb Brown's grandson), **Greta Mehling** (Health Issues), **Caleb Payne** (health issues), **Bruce** (Cancer treatments—friend of Jean Collins & Cathy Johnson), **Bill Steele** (Recovering at home), **Harlan Meyer** (Lonnie Miller's uncle), **Reuben & Gloria Gorr** (health issues), **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 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, 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.)



Dennis Gorr, 6/14; Dennis Katus, 6/15, Kaylynn Buckley; 6/16,
Dawn Holub; 6/16, Dakota Newsom; 6/19

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.



JUNE FOOD DONATIONS REQUESTED

FOOD PANTRY: Canned Fruit

BACKPACKS: Oatmeal

Containers are located outside Fellowship Hall.

Thanks for your generosity.



WOMEN OF THE ELCA JUNE MISSION PROJECT:

Sullivan Hills Camp



SULLIVAN HILLS CAMP

This month we are asking your help in sending monetary support to Sullivan Hills Camp. The camp offers programs for grades 1-12, a confirmation camp, programs for special needs families, and a beautiful setting for retreats. Donations may be placed in the tan “*Designated Giving*” envelopes in the pews. Please be sure to mark on them WELCA Project on the envelope. Thank you for your support.

Reception in Honor of Nancy Steele

Please join us TODAY, as we recognize and celebrate Nancy’s 25 years as Parish Ministry Associate. Nancy has faithfully served Calvary and the Nebraska Synod in a myriad of different ways throughout her 25 years as a PMA. We give thanks for Nancy’s 25 years of ministry and invite you to celebrate with us at a reception in her honor in the Fellowship Hall following Worship on Sunday, June 13th.



Pastor Larry preaching June 19th & 20th

Join us the weekend of June 19th & 20th when Pastor Larry Spomer will be preaching at Calvary one last time before he and Linda move to Lincoln next month.

Farewell Blessing for Spomers & Michaels on June 20th

Join us on Sunday, June 20th as we bid farewell and Godspeed to the Spomers and Michaels. While we will be sad to see them go; we give thanks for the life and ministry they have shared with Calvary through the years.

You're Invited! The Heart of the Hills (*a benefit for our Bible camp near Lodgepole, Sullivan Hills Camp*) is June 24, 2021, at the Country Inn & Suites in Sidney, Nebraska. The Heart of the Hills benefit dinner ensures that all campers have the ability to attend Sullivan Hills Camp—FOR FREE! The evening begins with Cocktails & Silent Auction at 5:00 p.m. and Dinner, Remarks, & Live Auction at 6:30 p.m. Calvary Lutheran is sponsoring a table for 8 people, so if you would be interested in going there is no cost to you for the dinner! Talk to Pastors Chris or Sheryl by June 16th for more information or to reserve your seat at our table. For more information about Sullivan Hills go to: sullivanhills.org.



2nd ANNUAL BBQ-LESS BBQ

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

All donations will go to the **Lakota Lutheran Center** to help them reach the funds needed to receive a matching grant which will allow them to put in new flooring at the Center.

NEW SUMMER OFFICE HOURS!

Our new summer office hours through
September 1, 2021 will be
8 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday - Friday



WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastors Chris and Sheryl Kester Beyer

This Sunday – June 13

USHERS: Chris & Barb Jensen

LAY READER: LaDonna Schmidt

COMMUNION ASST: Shari Copsey

POWERPOINT: Andi Dorn

MEDIA: Maunette Loeks-Van Patten

ALTAR GUILD: Deb Brown, Vicki Howell,
Tracy Steele, Shari Copsey

ORGANIST: Rhonda Boettcher

Next Sunday – June 20

USHERS: Monty & Shari Copsey

LAY READER: Susan Martin

COMMUNION ASST: Dennis Gorr

POWERPOINT: Shawna Payne

MEDIA: Jeff Van Patten

ALTAR GUILD: Andi Dorn, Shelly Koehler

PIANIST: Dee Brady

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, June 13

10 a.m. – Worship

11 a.m. – Reception for Nancy Steele
25 years as a PMA (Parish Ministry
Associate)

Monday, June 14

2 p.m. – Priscilla Circle in Fellowship Hall

6 p.m. – Council

Tuesday, June 15

12 p.m. – Women's Study @ Calvary

1 p.m. – Quilting

Wednesday, June 16

6:15 p.m. – Outreach

Saturday, June 19

9 a.m. – Trustees

5:30 p.m. – Worship with Larry Spomer

Sunday, June 20

Father's Day

10 a.m. – Worship with Larry Spomer

JUNE 13, 2021
THIRD SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



The reign of God will not be stopped.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Mark 4:26-34	Parables of Jesus
Monday	Ezekiel 17:22-24	Israel to return from exile
Tuesday	2 Corinthians 5:6-17	Living by faith
Wednesday	Psalms 107:4-22	Thanksgiving for deliverance
Thursday	Acts 5:27-42	The apostles are persecuted
Friday	Zachariah 8:1-17	God's promises to Zion
Saturday	Psalms 92:1-4, 12-15	A song for the sabbath day
Sunday	Mark 4:35-41	Jesus calms the sea

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed, which when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." Mark 4:31-32 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, in Christ Jesus we thank you that by day and by night your reign of steadfast love and faithfulness will not be stopped. (Psalm 92:1-2)

Mealtime Prayer:

Nurturing God, for the seed that becomes the plant that supplies the food that shows your love, we give you thanks. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the steadfast love and faithfulness of God bless you now and always. (Psalm 92:2)



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JUNE 13, 2021
HYMN OF THE WEEK
As Rain from the Clouds



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:

- Describe your experience with gardening and planting seeds.
- Think or talk about a time you have seen an act of kindness make a big difference in someone's life.
- Jesus describes the reign of God through images of tiny seeds and growth. In what way is this a message about God's kingdom?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Mark 4:26-34.

With Jesus' depiction of the kingdom of God, one would expect comparisons to something like spectacular cedar trees of Lebanon (Ezekiel 17:22 and Psalm 92:12) or some other vision of grandeur; Jesus chooses something more akin to a weed, a mustard bush that is prolific in Judea. It's another example that likely made his hearers chuckle, not gasp with indescribable awe; it's another example of getting people to see differently. Just as relentless as mustard bushes or weeds are, God's reign will not be deterred. It is like the seed planted that grows and grows without human intervention. As the Gospel of Mark gets underway, the message is that the kingdom is coming. The kingdom is viewed through surprising, even humorous comparisons. It will not be stopped, not by evil, not by scribes, not by disciples who fall again and again. Evil will be overcome, voices of the kingdom will be heard, and imperfect followers will keep pointing to Christ's victory over sin and death. How do you help others see the kingdom of God more clearly?

Pray: Almighty God, help us to see and believe with the eyes of faith that your reign will win the day through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SERVICE

The smallest of seeds planted can become the largest of plants. Likewise, the smallest acts of kindness can grow to make a very large difference in someone's life. Think of someone who is not so visible or lonely and reach out to them. In what way does reaching out to them grow the kingdom of God?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Use a leafless branch and cut out leaf shapes. During devotion time this week, think or talk about ways you have seen and felt God at work in the world. Write down those ways on leaves and add them to the branch. Praise and thank God each time you add leaves by praying: Dear God, we thank you for caring for us. May your presence in our lives help us to continue to grow and care for others, even in ways we may not see or understand. Amen.



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

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