



“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.
March 27, 2022

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Prayer Before Worship: Almighty God, by the power of the Holy Spirit, open your Word and illumine our darkened world, that we may see clearly and live faithfully by the light of your truth in Jesus Christ. 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 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 in person or online today,
we are glad to have you with us. Please join us again soon!

Prelude Music

**"Rejoice in the Mission"
"How Can I Be Free from Sin?"**

**W&P #120
ELW #715**

Welcome and Announcements

+WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS+

***Confession of Sins and Assurance of God's Forgiveness**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the minister begins.

We gather in the name of + God,
who makes a way for us in the wilderness,
walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage. **Amen.**

The Lord is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear?
With humble hearts, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Ps. 27:1

(Time for reflection and self-examination)

Merciful God,
you have made us citizens of heaven, but we confess that we have set our minds on earthly things. We have let our desire for security restrain our commitment to serve the poor. We have let our fear of danger curb our obligation to love our enemies. We have let our love of things dull our generosity to the needy. We have let our craving for public status prevent our honesty about hidden sins. Yet, you know the desires of our heart and nothing is hidden from you. By the power of the Holy Spirit, conform our sin-weakened bodies to the glory of Christ, that we may be the body of Christ for the world. Amen.

God, our light and our salvation, does not forsake us or leave us with our sin.
In Christ we are forgiven and offered the gift of healing repentance.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Song of Praise:

“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”

ELW #335

vv. 4

4. Near the cross I'll watch and wait,
hoping, trusting ever,
till I reach the golden strand
just beyond the river.

Refrain

In the cross, in the cross
be my glory ever;
till my ransomed soul shall find
rest beyond the river.

***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**

God of compassion,
you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

+GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO US+

First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12

⁹The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹²The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 32

¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!

**²Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.

**⁴For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of
my sin.

**⁶Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

⁷You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

**⁸I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.**

⁹Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

**¹⁰Great are the tribulations of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

¹¹Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

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! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Lenten Verse:**

"Return to the Lord"

Jay Beech

**Return to the Lord, your God,
Return to the Lord, your God,
Who is gracious and merciful,
Slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

***Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32**

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

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³So he told them this parable: ¹¹Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger!'

¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²²But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe — the best one — and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

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

Kids Sermon:

Pastor Sheryl

Sermon:

Pastor Sheryl

(Silence for Reflection and Meditation.)

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***Song of the Day**

"Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling"

ELW #608

**1. Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
calling for you and for me.**

**See, on the portals he's waiting and watching,
watching for you and for me.**

Refrain

"Come home, (Come home,)
come home! (come home!)
You who are weary, come home."
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling, "O sinner, come home!"

2. Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,
pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,
mercies for you and for me?

Refrain

3. Oh, for the wonderful love he has promised,
promised for you and for me!
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,
pardon for you and for me.

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:**

W&P #27

(Sung Prayer Response)

I cast all my cares upon you;
I lay all of my burdens down at your feet.
And anytime that I don't know what to do,
I will cast all my cares upon you.

***Exchange of Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

***Offertory Prayer**

Having offered ourselves and our gifts to God, let us pray.

Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with 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

There is bread enough, there is wine enough for all.
Come, brothers and sisters, to the feast where all are welcome!

Distribution of Communion:

Christ is truly present in the Lord's Supper with gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

All are welcome and invited to receive Holy Communion.

(Communion will be served continuously at two stations in the front of the church.

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:

“As the Grains of Wheat”

ELW #465

Refrain

**As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.**

- 1. As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
may we share the presence of your love.**

Refrain

- 2. Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
when all creation shares this feast with you.**

Refrain

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Post-Communion Prayer**

Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

†WE DEPART TO SERVE†

***Benediction**

May God who leads you in pathways of righteousness,
who rejoices over you,
and who calls you by name,

† bless you now and at the day of his coming. **Amen.**

***Sending Song:**

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

ELW #666

vv. 1&3

**1. What wondrous love is this,
O my soul, O my soul!**

**What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse
for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?**

3. To God and to the Lamb

I will sing, I will sing;

to God and to the Lamb I will sing;

to God and to the Lamb,

who is the great I AM,

while millions join the theme,

I will sing, I will sing,

while millions join the theme, I will sing.

***Dismissal**

Go with Christ into a weary world.

Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

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+In Our Thoughts and Prayers+

Prayers for healing: **Mary Jo Haack** (Becky Martin's mother), **Allie Meyers** (friend of Marissa Wright), **Mabel Dedlow** (recovering from hip surgery), **Shirlie Schuldies** (covid, eye & heart procedures), **Dick Heidingsfelder** (recovering from hip surgery), **Andrew Miller, Jean Collins** (recovery from hip surgery), **Kathy Pickett** (cancer—Virginia Pickett's niece), **Maeve Singer** (medical issues), **Kathy Johnson** (back issues), **Kathy Rahrs** (recovering from back surgery—Val Rahrs' mother), **Mark** (Jean Collins & Kathy Johnson's cousin's husband), **LaDonna Schmidt** (chemotherapy), **Greta Mehling** (Health Issues), **Gloria Gorr** (health issues), **Julie** (cancer treatment—Travis Miller family), **Joan** (cancer—niece of Marj Nikont), **Patty** (cancer—Jim Dorn's sister-in-law).

Prayers for comfort and peace for: Family and friends of **Larry Stahla** (Virginia Pickett's brother).

Prayers for: **B.J. Carr** (deployed to Poland—Dee Brady's son-in-law), the people of Ukraine, for peace and the end of war.



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.)



Eric Dorn, 3/27; Carmen Kleager, 3/27; Shawna Payne, 4/1; Dave Holdt, 4/2

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.



SCAN ME

APRIL FOOD DONATIONS REQUESTED

FOOD PANTRY: Pancake Mix

BACKPACKS: Mac 'n Cheese Bowls

Containers are located outside Fellowship Hall.

Thanks for your generosity.



CLCW MAY MISSION PROJECT: CALVARY KITCHEN SHOWER

A box will be placed in the Reception Area on the table under the CLCW bulletin board next to Pastor Chris's office to receive items needed for the kitchen. The kitchen could use the following: paper towels, napkins, and cups.

Cash donations are also welcome; be sure to clearly mark them 'Kitchen Shower' when sending to or dropping off at the church. Be sure to designate CLCW on the envelope.



March 30th, the meal is @ 5:30 pm
with worship to follow @ 6:30 pm.
This week is Baked Potato Bar
sponsored by the JAM & EPIC Kids.

CHILDREN'S *Sunday School*

**"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old
they will not turn from it"**

Proverbs 22:6

We believe that children are a precious gift from God. We invite your children to celebrate the love of Jesus Christ through Bible stories, songs, games and crafts. every Sunday @ 11 a.m.

Coffee and Fellowship

Coffee and fellowship has started back up. 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.



Do you like a treat with your coffee, but you would rather not bake or buy something? Donate to the treat fund by dropping dollars or coins in the mug and when no one signs up, there will be treats purchased to enjoy!



Calvary has partnered with St. Francis Episcopal Church and First Presbyterian Church to provide a monthly Laundry Love Event in our community. Calvary will host Laundry Love every 3rd month; our next event is April 16th. In preparation for that day, we will need quarters as well as dryer sheets or softener. Laundry detergent has already been donated. So, save your quarters and drop them in the Laundry Bottle outside the pastor's offices.

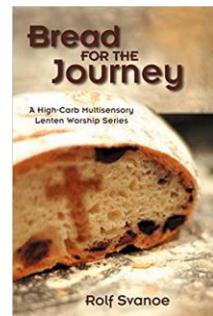
Laundry Love

"I am the Bread of Life"

---Jesus

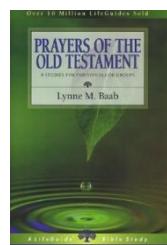
Bread for the Journey is the theme for our Wednesday night Lenten services this year. Bread is present throughout the pages of the Bible, but especially at key times in Israel's salvation history. This series will give us an opportunity to reflect on those 'bread' stories in ways that are particularly appropriate for Lent. As well, each week we will sample different breads as we explore together themes of hospitality, generosity, sufficiency, and trust which are like slices in the loaf of bread being served each week.

Join us at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday nights for a high-carb, multi-sensory Lenten Worship Experience!



Prayers of the OLD Testament Tuesday Evening Study @ 7 p.m. (8-week study starting March 16th)

Having just finished up a study on the prayers of the New Testament, we will now turn our attention to some of the "Prayers of the Old Testament." Join Pastors Sheryl and Chris as we study eight different prayers from the Old Testament (prayers from Moses, Hannah, Samuel, Solomon, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Jonah and Habakuk). You need not have attended the New Testament study to benefit from this new study. Everyone is welcome.





We're updating our church directory!!!

(Dates for getting your picture taken are listed below)

It's been 4 years since we put together our last church directory and in that time the makeup of our congregation has changed. The Outreach Committee would like to give everyone the opportunity to have their picture taken (for those who are new to Calvary or perhaps didn't get their picture taken the last time around) or updated if you did have your picture and you or your family look different now!). In order to be as inclusive and accommodating as possible we have come with the following options:

1) the Wednesdays of Lent, during the Lenten Meal hour, a member of the Outreach Committee will be available to take your picture for the directory using the church camera. **2) For those who would like a more professional photo taken**, Brooke Samuelson has again agreed to take photos for us on **Saturday, April 2nd from 4:30 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.** before the Saturday night service and then again on **Sunday, April 3rd after worship from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.** Additional times will be added if needed. Sign-up sheets will be placed outside the church office for those who wish to sign up for the 'professional pictures'. **3) OR**, if those two options don't work, you may submit a photo of your own choosing to be included in the directory.

Any questions, talk to Pastor Sheryl or a member of the Outreach Committee: Becca Pierce, Dawn Holub, Deb Brown, Tracy Steele or Tammy Lutz.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastors Chris and Sheryl Kester Beyer

This Sunday – March 27

USHERS: Chris & Barb Jensen

LAY READER: Susan Martin

COMMUNION ASST: Shari Copsey

POWERPOINT: Shawna Payne

ACOLYTES: Ben Moravec & Jacey Cochran

MEDIA: Maunette Loeks-Van Patten

AUDIO: Val Rahrs

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

PIANIST: Dee Brady

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP: Marlene Downer

Lenten Wednesday – March 30

LAY READER: Beth Janecek

POWERPOINT: Mary Jo Huelle

ACOLYTE: Clare Schlothauer

MEDIA: Jeff Van Patten

AUDIO: Jack Martin

Next Sunday – April 3

USHERS: Dennis & Barb Gorr

LAY READER: Marti Wegelin

COMMUNION ASST: LaDonna Schmidt

POWERPOINT: Andi Dorn

ACOLYTES: Merrick Walsh & Max Judy

MEDIA: Jeff Van Patten

AUDIO: Jim Dorn

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

ORGANIST: Rhonda Boettcher

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP: Please Sign Up!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, March 27

10 a.m. – Worship

11 a.m. – Children’s Sunday School

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

Monday, March 28

5 p.m. – Parish Ed

Tuesday, March 29

8:30 a.m. – Men’s Study @ Calvary

12 p.m. – Women’s Study @ Calvary

1 p.m. – Quilting

7 p.m. – Pastor’s Bible Study

Wednesday, March 30

5:30 p.m. – Lenten Meal/

Directory Pictures

6:30 p.m. – Worship

7 p.m. – Choir Practice

Thursday, March 31

10 a.m. – Cluster Meeting

Saturday, April 2

4:30 - 5:15 p.m. – Professional Directory Pictures

5:30 p.m. – Worship

Sunday, April 3

10 a.m. – Worship

11 a.m. – Children’s Sunday School

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

11 a.m. - 12 p.m. – Professional Directory Pictures

MARCH 27, 2022 FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

taking† faith home

Confessing our need for God brings joy.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32	Parable of the forgiving father
Monday	Joshua 5:9-12	Passover at Gilgal
Tuesday	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	The ministry of reconciliation
Wednesday	Psalm 103:1-12	Thanksgiving for God's goodness
Thursday	Genesis 45:1-28	Joseph reveals himself
Friday	Luke 15:3-7	The parable of the lost sheep
Saturday	Psalm 32	The joy of forgiveness
Sunday	John 12:1-8	Mary anoints Jesus at Bethany

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD. Be glad in the LORD and rejoice. O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart. Psalm 32:10-11 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:
Dear God, we thank you for your love that reunites us to you through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Meattime Prayer:

Be present at our table, Lord; be here and everywhere adored; your mercies bless and grant that we, may strengthen for your service be. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God of grace bless you with the joy of forgiveness and new life.



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

MARCH 27, 2022 HYMN OF THE WEEK



God of the Sparrow

taking† faith home

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:

- Talk or think about a time you forgave a person or a person forgave you. How did you feel?
- How does faith in God help you resolve differences you have with others?

DEVOTIONS

Read: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21.

Recognizing our sin, our separation from God, is foundational to the Christian faith. Lent is a time to acknowledge our sin, our need and need for God is foundational to the Christian faith. Lent is a time to transgression is *forgiven* (Psalm 32:1). Naming our need for forgiveness and receiving forgiveness leads to joy. The prodigal son experiences the surprise of his total acceptance and the waiting father experiences the delight of the return of a son who had been lost (Luke 15:20-32). We also experience the joy of the truth that in Christ we have been reconciled—reunited—back to God. We have been given the life-giving ministry and joy of telling the good news of God's reconciling power in Christ to all people. The challenge, of course, is that, like the older brother in the parable of the prodigal son, we may not want God's love and undeserved kindness to bless people who we might see as less deserving than ourselves.

Discuss: How does forgiveness lead to joy? Pray: Dear God, help us to be people of joy! Glad that you forgive us and reconcile us to you and to all you create through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how might you bring joy to someone others see as less deserving?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Lent is a time to focus on prayer. We all have photo albums, whether printed or digital. Not all of our friends and family may know of God's reconciling power and forgiveness that leads to joy. While looking at pictures of family and friends, think about your relationships. Pause and pray for that person. Light a candle and say; Jesus Christ is the light of the world. The light no darkness can overcome. Close with the Lord's prayer.



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