



3rd
Sunday
in
Lent



"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 7, 2021

Third Sunday in Lent

Prayer Before Worship: Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your Word and obey it, so that we become instruments of your redeeming love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

(In preparation for our worship together, you are invited to take a moment of silence to offer your own prayers of worship and praise.)

* Indicates please stand if able. Congregational responses are printed in **BOLD** type.

A Warm Welcome to all as we gather as God's people to worship our Lord. We pray our worship together would strengthen your faith and desire to know and serve the One who loves us with an everlasting love as made known to us in Jesus Christ.

***Visitors**, if you are worshipping with us in person or online today,
we are glad to have you with us.*

Prelude Music

Welcome and Announcements

✠WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS✠

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

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

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

Most merciful God,

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

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

Holy God,

through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only 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✝

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 20:1-17

¹Then God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work — you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19

¹The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

²**One day tells its tale to another,
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

³Although they have no words or language,
and their voices are not heard,

⁴**their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the
world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

⁶**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of
it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸**The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²**Who can detect one's own offenses?**

Cleanse me from my secret faults.

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

***Lenten Verse**

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

***Gospel: John 2:13-22**

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

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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

Kids' Sermon:

Angie Hinze

Sermon:

Pastor Chris

(Silence for Reflection and Meditation.)

‡WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD‡

***Hymn of the Day:**

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

ELW 338

vv. 1-3

**1. Beneath the cross of Jesus
I long to take my stand;
the shadow of a mighty rock
within a weary land,
a home within a wilderness,
a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat
and burdens of the day.**

**2. Upon the cross of Jesus,
my eye at times can see
the very dying form of one
who suffered there for me.
And from my contrite heart, with tears,
two wonders I confess:
the wonder of his glorious love
and my unworthiness.**

**3. I take, O cross, your shadow
for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than
the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by,
to know no gain nor loss,
my sinful self my only shame,
my glory all, the cross.**

***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 with:

...through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***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 & DISMISSAL‡

Here our Lord gives to us His own Body and Blood for the forgiveness of all our sins.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever, and ever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Distribution of Communion:

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

All are welcome and invited to receive Holy Communion.

*(Communion will be served continuously at one station in the front of the church with the
pulpit side of the church being dismissed first.*

WHITE GRAPE JUICE and GLUTEN FREE WAFERS are available. Just ask the server.

Children who are not yet communicants are invited to come forward for a blessing.)

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

"Take Time to be Holy"

Choir

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Post-Communion Prayer**

God of steadfast love, in this meal you nourish us with the gifts of faith and hope. Sustain us on our journey, that refreshed by your grace, our lives would bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **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:**

“Lift High the Cross”

**ELW #660
vv.1&3**

Refrain: **Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.**

**1. Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God.**

Refrain

**3. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee.**

Refrain

***Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Joe Lentz, 3/7; Melissa Guerrero, 3/7; Caleb Payne, 3/8;
Neal Blomenkamp, 3/11; Marv Braaten, 3/12

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

✝️ In Our Thoughts and Prayers ✝️

Prayers for healing: **Syl Holdt** (re-do knee surgery), **Greta Mehling** (Health Issues), **Ron Wegelin** (health issues), **Shirlie Schuldies** (health issues—mainly her heart), **Caleb Payne** (health issues), **Bruce** (Cancer treatments—friend of Jean Collins & Cathy Johnson), **Laynette Van Anne** (brain tumor—friend of Dee Brady), **LaDonna Schmidt** (colon cancer), **Bill Steele** (Recovering from COVID-19), **Beth Janecek** (Radiation), **Rich** (COVID-19 recovery—brother of Barb Gorr), **Cathy Rahrs** (rehab @ home), **Nancy & Tracy Steele** (COVID-19 health issues), **Harlan Meyer** (Lonnie Miller's uncle), **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, during the week you may notify Christy in the church office or let us know by filling out the online Attendance and Prayer Request card under the worship tab on our website or on Sunday morning inform one of the ushers of your prayer request and they will make a list and give those to the pastor before worship begins.

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.



MARCH FOOD DONATIONS REQUESTED

FOOD PANTRY: Sauces

BACKPACKS: Fruit Cups

Containers are located outside Fellowship Hall.

Thanks for your generosity.



WOMEN OF THE ELCA MARCH MISSION PROJECT:

Food for meals at the Lakota Center

Cash donations will be used to help supplement the food ministry at the Lakota Center.

Meals are an important part of community at the center and reach a large number of people. Be sure to designate WELCA on your donation.

EASTER LILIES



You are invited to bring an Easter Lily to decorate the sanctuary for Easter Sunday. If you would like to dedicate your plant *in honor of or in memory* of a loved one, fill out the form located outside the church office and return it to the office so that we can print these remembrances in the Easter bulletins. You may bring your plant between March 28 - April 3 and may take it home after the Easter Sunday services to enjoy at home.

SUNDAY, March 14

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS!



Calling all 4th-8th graders! We would like to set up an acolyte schedule again, so if you would like to be put on the acolyte schedule call/text Angie at 631-2768.

First Communion Class

We will be offering a class on the meaning of Holy Communion during Lent for any child wishing to begin receiving Holy Communion. For those interested, **they will receive their First Communion during our Worship Service on Maundy Thursday, April 1st at 6:30 p.m.**

Please note that there is no minimum age at which your child can begin to receive Holy Communion at Calvary—when your child begins to receive Holy Communion is up to you the parent(s). We do, however, encourage you to have your child (*and at least one or both parent(s) or even a grandparent*) attend a First Communion class prior to receiving Holy Communion so that they might have a basic understanding of Holy Communion.

Our First Communion class will be March 21st @ 1:30 p.m. If you are interested in having your child participate in the First Communion class, please contact Pastor Chris or Pastor Sheryl, so that we can make sure to have enough supplies and establish a date and time that is convenient for all. Please contact us by March 10th to give us time to organize a class.

Lutheran Family Service Telehealth Mental Health Services Now Available Here at Calvary

2020 has been a stressful year. If you have found the disruption of the holidays the last straw in your ability to cope there is help available through Lutheran Family Services. LFS (Lutheran Family Services) has partnered with several remote sites to provide counseling and other needs through computer teleconferencing (or Telehealth).

If you would like to take advantage of these services, specifically talking with an LFS counselor, come to Calvary and we can help connect you to a counselor! Or go online at www.LFSneb.org. (You can also call LFS directly at 402-441-7940 or 1-833-903-2376.) Be prepared to spend about 15 to 30 minutes doing online paperwork, including your insurance information. Counseling fees will be handled directly through LFS, there is no fee for use of the computer here at Calvary, (it was provided by LFS) or for the use of the private space.

If life has you down, know there is someone to talk to and help you work through any of life's struggles including depression, relationship issues, parenting difficulties, abuse, as well as getting through this pandemic. Starting the process is available anytime on your home computer and scheduling an appt. with a counselor is very flexible on any computer with camera and internet capabilities. If you would like to use the computer here at Calvary or begin the process with assistance through the office, please come Monday through Thursday from 9-3 PM. (Not available Friday or Weekends.) You may also contact us for more information.

Please see the January Newsletter for more information!



GOD'S WORK – OUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT!

The Community Action Partnership of Western Nebraska has a program to help families in need of emergency financial assistance. They assist families with emergency shelter, utility assistance, assistance with rent, and other needs. Let's help support our neighbors by contributing to this important program. For the months of February and March, we are asking Calvary to prayerfully consider providing financial assistance. The need is great at this time due to the financial hardships created by the COVID-19 pandemic. You can help by making a donation to Calvary Lutheran designated to this cause. Please mark your offering as Emergency Family Support. A member of Calvary has offered to match the congregational giving up to \$500.

"For as you have done it for the least of those my brothers, you have done it for me."
Matthew 25:40



"He took our infirmities and bore our diseases."
Matthew 8:17b

Each of us is created a precious and holy vessel of embodied love. We have been through a harrowing time since last Lent that has shattered for many their sense of wholeness—body, mind, and spirit—like a glass vessel fractured into pieces. In this Lenten 'season of recovery', we will explore the healing narratives of Jesus that tell of divine solidarity with human suffering and remind us that we can begin a journey toward making something beautiful from that which is seemingly broken.

Join us on Wednesday nights during Lent
@ 6:30 p.m.
as we discover how each of us is a holy vessel despite our brokenness.
Please note: there will be NO Lenten Dinners this year

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastors Chris and Sheryl Kester Beyer

This Sunday – March 7

USHERS: Kent & Dawn Holub

LAY READER: Angie Hinze

COMMUNION ASST: Barb Jensen

POWERPOINT: Andi Dorn

MEDIA: Maunette Loeks-Van Patten

ALTAR GUILD: Andi Dorn, Shelly Koehler

ORGANIST: Rhonda Boettcher

SONG LEADER: Gail Bruflat

Next Sunday – March 14

USHERS: Monty & Shari Copsey

LAY READER: Susan Martin

COMMUNION ASST: Dennis Gorr

POWERPOINT: Shawna Payne

MEDIA: Jeff Van Patten

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

PIANIST: Dee Brady

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, March 7

10 a.m. – Worship

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

Monday, March 8

2 p.m. – Priscilla Circle @ Calvary's Fellowship Hall

6 p.m. – Council

Tuesday, March 9

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

9 a.m. – Esther Circle

12 p.m. – Women's Study @ Calvary

1 p.m. – Quilting

Wednesday, March 10

6:30 p.m. – Worship

Choir Practice following Worship

Saturday, March 13

5:30 p.m. – Worship

Sunday, March 14

Daylight Savings Time Begins

10 a.m. – Worship

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

MARCH 7, 2021
THIRD SUNDAY
IN LENT



God's glory, God's handiwork, is awesome.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

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

Sunday	John 2:13-22	Jesus cleanses the temple
Monday	Exodus 20:1-17	The Ten Commandments
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 1:18-25	Christ crucified
Wednesday	Genesis 1:27-31	God created humankind
Thursday	Matthew 6:25-33	God cares for you
Friday	Job 12:7-10	Even the animals will teach you
Saturday	Psalms 19	God is creator and gives the law
Sunday	John 3:14-21	God so loved the world

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.
Psalm 19:14 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Awesome God, your foolishness is wiser than human wisdom and your weakness is stronger than our own might. Give us humility and thanksgiving for your saving grace through Christ our Lord. Amen. (1 Corinthians 1:25)

Meatime Prayer:

For life and health and every good, we give you thanks, O Lord. Amen. (Traditional table grace song)

A Blessing to Give:

May the God who raised Jesus from the dead enliven your heart with joy.



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

MARCH 7, 2021

HYMN OF THE WEEK

For the Beauty of the Earth



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 a time when you experienced great joy.
- In what ways is the Christian life an experience to enjoy?
- What are some words you would use to describe the majesty of God?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Psalm 13.

The psalmist focuses on two ways to experience God's awesomeness: the sun as part of creation and the law that guides God's people. The first focuses on the power of creation to preach of God's glory throughout the universe. A sunrise shouts God's presence and glory. Creation communicates God's power, and, yet, no human hears it. The law also speaks in ways that communicates God's glory and goodness. The law is perfection itself, is sweeter than honey, and renews the soul. It is conveyed through many synonyms: decrees, precepts, commandments, and ordinances. Through God's guidance for humanity there is rejoicing, beauty, desire and great benefit for all. This psalm uses poetry to communicate what is finally indescribable: God's goodness that renews us each day with wisdom and joy. God's glory turns us from being rude and arrogant to celebrating with humility the awesomeness of God. The psalmist is not so much teaching but delighting the soul so that we experience and enjoy God's handiwork that is filled with beauty, power, and awe. How do you experience God's creation? How do you express that sense of awe and wonder? *Pray: God of glory, we thank you for your goodness, help us to express our joy and delight in your presence through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

SERVICE

The Ten Commandments listed in Exodus 20 give us a set of rules to help us understand how to live with others. Like the rules we have in our home, school, or elsewhere, they free us to live a good life and teach us how to be thoughtful and kind to others through our actions and our words. What act of kindness can you do for someone this week?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In the Gospel of John, the cleansing of the temple has an emphasis on Jesus as the temple of God, the very place to worship, see, and experience God in the world. We worship God in our congregations and in our daily lives. Where Christ is present in faith, your home is church, too, because God in Christ dwells with you. Keep this in mind as you do your *Daily Bible Readings* this week. Say the *Prayer for the Week* and add your own prayers. End the time by saying: Remember that you are God's, and to God you shall return.



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