



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

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

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Scottsbluff, NE
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calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org

Sunday Morning Worship
10:00 a.m.
May 14, 2023

Sixth Sunday of Easter

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 today,
we are glad to have you with us.

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

KEY: ELW and any page number = Worship hymnal (cranberry),
OSB = Other Song Book (red), W&P = Worship & Praise (purple).

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

Prelude Music

Welcome and Announcements

‡WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS‡

Opening Hymn:

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

ELW #855
vv. 1,4&5

1. **Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns
all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.**

4. **Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save.**

**His glories now we sing,
who died and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.**

**5. Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail
throughout eternity.**

***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.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

***Greeting**

The grace of our risen Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

***Glory to God:**

Page 139

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.**

***Prayer of the Day**

Almighty and ever-living God,
**you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive
the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth
and peace, 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: Acts 17:22-31

²²Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him — though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.'

²⁹Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 66:8-20

Read Responsively

⁸Bless our God, you peoples;
let the sound of praise be heard.

⁹**Our God has kept us among the living
and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

¹⁰For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹¹**You brought us into the net;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

¹²You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

¹³**I will enter your house with burnt offerings
and will pay you my vows—**

¹⁴those that I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

¹⁵**I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.**

¹⁶Come and listen, all you who believe,
and I will tell you what God has done for me.

¹⁷**I called out to God with my mouth,
and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

¹⁸If I had cherished evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;

¹⁹**but in truth God has heard me
and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**

²⁰Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing love from me.

Second reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Verse**

Page 142

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

***Gospel: John 14:15-21**

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

¹⁵If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

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

Kids Sermon:

Angie Hinze

Sermon:

PMA Maurine Roller

(Silence for Reflection and Meditation.)

‡WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD‡

***Hymn of the Day:**

"Children of the Heavenly Father"

ELW #781

**1. Children of the heav'nly Father
safely in his bosom gather;
nestling bird nor star in heaven
such a refuge e'er was given.**

**2. God his own doth tend and nourish,
in his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them,
in his mighty arms he bears them.**

3. Neither life nor death shall ever
from the Lord his children sever;
unto them his grace he showeth,
and their sorrows all he knoweth.

4. Though he giveth or he taketh,
God his children ne'er forsaketh;
his the loving purpose solely
to preserve them pure and holy.

***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:

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

***Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering

***Offering Prayer**

Generous God,

in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.**

‡WE DEPART TO SERVE‡

***Benediction**

The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

Amen.

***Sending Hymn: "What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine"**

**ELW #774
vv. 1&2**

**1. What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.**

Refrain:

**Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**2. Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
 leaning on the everlasting arms;
oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
 leaning on the everlasting arms. *Refrain***

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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In Our Thoughts and Prayers†

Prayers for healing: Jerry (upcoming surgery), **Nancy** (cancer), **Joni** (cancer), **Amy** (cancer), **Marsha Bueide** (hospitalized), **Carolyn Jensen** (recovering from knee replacement surgery), **William Gibbs** (Cancer—brother of Larry Gibbs), **Vicki Schmidt** (cancer treatment), **Susan Martin** (recovering from a fall), **Linda Spomer** (healing/pain from broken back), **Perry Crom** (health issues-nephew of Shirлие Schuldies), **Neal Blomenkamp** (recovering from heart surgery), **Catherine Rahrs** (blood clots—Val Rahrs' mother), **Paul Bueide** (recovering), **Patty** (cancer—Jim Dorn's sister-in-law).

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Glen Vanderberge, 5/17; Jim Dorn, 5/18; Jean Stormoe, 5/18;
Vicki Howell, 5/19; Deb Brown, 5/19; Krista Gingrich, 5/21

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.



MAY FOOD DONATIONS REQUESTED

FOOD PANTRY: Oatmeal

BACKPACKS: Pudding Cups

Containers are located outside Fellowship Hall.

Thanks for your generosity.



SULLIVAN HILLS CAMP

CLCW MAY MISSION PROJECT: Sullivan Hills Camp

This month we are asking your help in sending monetary support to Sullivan Hills Camp which serves campers each summer in Western Nebraska. The camp offers programs for grades 1-12, special needs families, confirmation and also provides 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 CLCW Project on the envelope.

Thank you for your support.

Coffee and Fellowship

We would like to invite people to stay after worship for a time of fellowship. The coffee pot will be on, but if you would like to provide treats, please sign up on the sheet outside the office.



**Reminder: Scholarship Applications for
2023-2024 are due in the church office
June 1, 2023.**



Laundry Love – Quarters Needed!

Calvary hosts Laundry Love every 3rd month; our next event is July 15th. In preparation for that day, we need quarters!! Please donate – the Laundry Bottle is outside the pastor’s offices. Loose quarters or rolls will work.

Thank you so much!

SHEETS NEEDED!

The quilting ladies are in need of sheets. If anyone would like to donate please drop them off in the fellowship hall. Thank you for your generosity!



WORSHIP LEADERS

This Sunday – May 14

PMA: Maurine Roller

USHERS: Kent & Dawn Holub

LAY READER: Marissa Wright

POWERPOINT: Andi Dorn

ACOLYTES: Merrick Walsh & Ben
Moravec

MEDIA: Maunette Loeks-Van Patten

AUDIO: Jim Dorn

ALTAR GUILD: Andi Dorn, Shelly Koehler

ORGANIST: Rhonda Boettcher

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP: *Please sign up!*

Next Sunday – May 21

PMA: Maurine Roller

USHERS: Deb Brown & Vicki Howell

LAY READER: Marti Wegelin

POWERPOINT: Shawna Payne

ACOLYTES: Rhyan Buckley & Brynlee
Payne

MEDIA: Chris Jensen

AUDIO: Jack Martin

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

ORGANIST: Rhonda Boettcher

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP: Barb Jensen

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, May 14

Mother's Day

10 a.m. – Worship

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

Monday, May 15

5 p.m. – Elders

6 p.m. – Worship

6 p.m. – Stewards

Tuesday, May 16

12 p.m. – Sarah Study

1 p.m. – Quilting

Wednesday, May 17

7 p.m. – Choir Practice

Saturday, May 20

9 a.m. – Trustees

5:30 p.m. – Worship

Sunday, May 21

10 a.m. – Worship

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

MAY 14, 2023
SIXTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER



Doing good through gentleness and reverence.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 14:15-21	The promise of the Holy Spirit
Monday	Acts 17:22-31	Paul in Athens
Tuesday	1 Peter 3:13-22	Suffering for doing right
Wednesday	Galatians 5:22-26	Fruit of the Spirit
Thursday	Acts 1:1-11	Jesus is taken up to heaven
Friday	Philippians 2:1-11	Imitating Christ's humility
Saturday	Psalms 66:8-20	Shout praises to God
Sunday	John 17:1-11	Jesus prays for his disciples

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. 1 Peter 3:15b-16a (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Loving God, help us to see the path to life and salvation in Christ's suffering and death and to see your chosen way to heal and make all things new. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, with this food that we eat and your love that we receive, give us strength to care for others with gentleness and deep respect. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Spirit of truth guide you into all things wise and loving.



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MAY 14, 2023
HYMN OF THE WEEK
Thy Holy Wings



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:

- What action do you take when you are angry at or disagree with someone?
- How do you think Jesus would respond if he had a strong difference of opinion with someone?

DEVOTIONS

Read: 1 Peter 3:13-22.

Suffering happens. Life is sometimes painful. Followers of Jesus Christ can suffer "for doing what is right" (v. 14). Unfortunately, there are those who claim to follow Jesus and think that inflicting suffering is being a hero for "the truth." That's not the case for biblical truth and the way of Christ Jesus who "suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous" (v. 18). In being faithful to Christ and Christ's way of life, we are to be bold (a hero, one might say) and give "an accounting for the hope that is in you" (v. 15). However, this description that gives a defense of what a Christian may think and believe is not to be done with anger, threats, unkind acts, or any act of violence. A courageous disciple makes their defense "with gentleness and reverence" (v. 16). Christ's reign, unlike the powers of the present age, is built upon the power of self-giving love and service to others. It's the way of Jesus Christ, and it's the freeing power of the followers of Jesus Christ.

Discuss: How can being gentle and reverent show more courage than an act of violence?

Pray: Almighty God, help us to see in Jesus Christ not only the way of salvation but the way of life that witnesses to Christ with gentleness and reverence. Amen.

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you reach out to and serve alongside others who think differently than you?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Faith is formed by the power of the Holy Spirit through personal, trusted relationships—often in our own homes. In John 14:15-21, Jesus gives us the promise of the Holy Spirit. As you continue reading the Gospel of John during the Easter season, highlight this reading. Then take time to write a list of people with whom you have a personal, trusted relationship.

Pray: Lord Jesus, send the Holy Spirit upon me so that I may grow in my faith and form life-giving relationships. Alleluia! Christ is risen. Alleluia! Amen.



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