



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

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

17 East 27th Street
Scottsbluff, NE
(308) 632-8023
calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org

Sunday Morning Worship
10:00 a.m.
May 17, 2020

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Prayer Before Worship: Almighty God, in whom we live and move and have our being, help us to choose life in you, that we may keep the commands of Jesus, follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit, and witness to the hope that is within us, sharing Christ's love in the world. 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.)

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 online today, we are glad to have you with us.

Prelude Music

Welcome and Announcements

†WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS†

Hymn:

"Baptized in Water"

**ELW #456
vv. 1&3**

**1. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
cleansed by the blood of Christ our king:
heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,
faithfully now God's praise we sing.**

**3. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ our king:
born of the Spirit, we are God's children;
joyfully now God's praise we sing.**

Confession of Sins/Assurance of Forgiveness

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

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ, by whose Spirit we have been reborn to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Amen.

God has been made known to us in deeds of power, signs, and wonders, and will not abandon us if we confess the truth about our lives, therefore let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

A time for prayer and confession.

Merciful God,

You have made known to us the ways of life. Yet, too often, we put other things above you and turn away from the ways of life and towards the ways of death. Forgive us and guide us back into your presence, that we may know the fullness of joy. Amen.

People of God: Christ is alive, and death has lost its power. Through the waters of baptism you have been born anew by the living word of God. Know that your sins are forgiven in ✠ Jesus' name and that the Spirit of the risen Christ is alive in you both now and forever.

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

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‡

Gospel Verse

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**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.

Sermon:

Pastor Sheryl

(Silence for Reflection and Meditation.)

‡WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD‡

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:

Risen Lord...**hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude with:

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

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead
raise you to new life, fill you with hope,
and turn your mourning into dancing.
Almighty God, Father, ‡ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever. Amen.

Hymn:

“Thy Holy Wings”

ELW #613
vv. 1&3

1. Thy holy wings, O Savior,
spread gently over me,
and let me rest securely
through good and ill in thee.
Oh, be my strength and portion,
my rock and hiding place,
and let my ev'ry moment
be lived within thy grace.
3. Oh, wash me in the waters
of Noah's cleansing flood.
Give me a willing spirit,
a heart both clean and good.
Oh, take into thy keeping
thy children great and small,
and while we sweetly slumber,
enfold us one and all.

Dismissal

Christ is risen, just as he said.

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

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Music: Baptized in Water: Text: Michael Saward, b. 1932 Text © 1982 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. OneLicense.net A-705226; **Thy Holy Wings:** CCLI Song # 309580 Gracia Grindal | Karolina Wilhelmina Sandell-Berg | LaRhae Knatterud © 1983 Grindal, Gracia (Admin. by Selah Publishing Company, Inc.) All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #1825044



*Glen Vandenberg, 5/17; James 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.

Because not all available funds were dispersed, applications are again open until May 31, 2020.

Forms are available in the office.



Reminder: Scholarship Applications for 2020-2021 are due in the church office June 1, 2020.

‡In Our Thoughts and Prayers‡

Prayers for healing: **Mary Ellen Kropp** (pancreatitis—mother of Krista Gingrich), **Kent Zweifel**, (Recovering from surgery— Robert & Deanna Zweifel's son), **Alice Shriver** (Recovering at Heritage), **Jean Collins** (Health Issues), **Kathy Johnson** (Health Issues), **Betty Kenyon** (recovering from emergency surgery—friend of Valerie Rahrs), **Alan** (recovery of vision after surgery—Kathy Randall's cousin), **Kenny Shriver** (recovering), **Jordan Hein** (cancer surgery—former member of Calvary), **Neal Blomenkamp** (recovering from surgery), **Steve Kaufman** (recovering), **Ron Hettinger** (heart & medical conditions—Marcy Miller's father), **Mabel Dedlow** (healing), **Candy** (cancer treatment—friend of Susan Martin), **Michael Dietrich** (friend of Dave & Penny Stevens), **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), **Kevin Feil** (healing—Melissa Guerrero's father), **Bonnie Noble** (Leah Nikont's mother).

Prayers for comfort and peace: For the family and friends of **Larry Miller** (Lonnie Miller's brother)

Prayers for our church, community, nation and world: in this time of Covid-19.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA MISSION PROJECT: CALVARY KITCHEN SHOWER



A box will be placed in the Reception Area on the table under the Women of the ELCA bulletin board next to Pastor Chris's office to receive items needed for the kitchen. See the Tidings for details.

MAY FOOD DONATIONS REQUESTED

FOOD PANTRY: oatmeal

BACKPACKS: pudding cups



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.





The landscaping outside the building especially the courtyard could use some tender loving care. Willing to help with weeding, and/or pruning? Please contact Bill Huelle.

Join us for Men's Bible Study via Zoom (online) every Tuesday morning at 8:30 a.m. If you would like to join please call or email the church to let us know!



Calvary's Quilting Group and several other volunteers have met their goal of 1000 masks for RWMC, they are now making masks for anyone in the congregation who might want one. If you would like a mask they are now available. Please call, email or stop in the church office to pick yours up today.

Virtual Fellowship Opportunities

Do you miss being able to get together with your friends and fellow members of Calvary?

Then join us on Zoom for either a Zoom Coffee Hour (Wednesdays from 2 to 2:30 p.m.) or a Zoom Happy Hour (6:30 to 7 p.m.)-your choice! If you are interested, look for one of two emails from the church (if we have your email address) that says either Zoom Coffee Hour or Zoom Happy Hour and use the link provided in the email to join us. If you have never done Zoom before you may need to download some software or an app (depending on whether you are logging in on a computer or device). If we don't have your email address, you will need to contact the church office so that we can send you an invitation to join us. AND, if you need any help getting onto Zoom, please call Pastor Chris at 402/694-9182 and he would love to help you!



*We are Here
to Help You!*



We're Here To Help: As we all deal with the uncertainty of the days ahead in light of the Covid-19, please know that we, your church family are here to offer support, prayer, and assistance. If you need help with anything, including getting supplies and/or groceries, or running errands because you do not feel comfortable getting out in public, please call the church office at 632-8023 or Pastor Chris 402-694-9189 or Pastor Sheryl 402-694-9182 for any assistance you might need. Also, if you would be willing to run errands for people in our congregation, please let us know that as well.



Your Offerings: Dear friends, we hope that you will remember the expenses of the church (utilities, salaries, insurance, and more) all continue on, even if we do not gather together for worship. So please consider this your gentle reminder to send or drop off your offerings to the church office. You may also scan the QR code in this bulletin or go to our website and use the 'give now' button on our home page to give electronically. If you have not already created a profile for giving electronically, you will need to do so first. If you need any help with this, do not hesitate to contact us.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastors Chris and Sheryl Kester Beyer

This Sunday – May 17

ORGANIST: Rhonda Boettcher

SONG LEADERS: Bill Huelle, Mary Jo Huelle

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, May 17

10 a.m. – Online Worship

Tuesday, May 19

9:00 a.m. – Men's Online Bible Study

Wednesday, May 20

2:00 p.m. – Zoom Coffee Hour

6:30 p.m. – Zoom Happy Hour

Sunday, May 24

10 a.m. – Online Worship

**MAY 17, 2020
SIXTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER**



Jesus will not abandon us.

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	Deuteronomy 31:7-8	God will be with you
Thursday	Acts 1:1-11	Jesus is taken up to heaven
Friday	2 Timothy 1:3-7	Thanksgiving and encouragement
Saturday	Psalms 66:8-20	Shout praises to God
Sunday	John 17:1-11	Jesus prays for his disciples

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

“I [Jesus] will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you.”
John 14:18 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Come, Holy Spirit, give me the faith and strength to love others as Christ has loved me and the world. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

For this food and the people who have brought it from the earth to our tables, we give you thanks. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God who made the world and everything in it, bless you with a loving heart. (Acts 17:24)



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MAY 17, 2020 HYMN OF THE WEEK

Holy Spirit, Come to Us



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:

- Think or tell about a time you have felt alone and afraid.
- What do you do when you feel all alone or abandoned?
- Talk or think about a time you have felt God's presence when no one else seemed to care.

DEVOTIONS

Read: John 14:15-21.

The Gospel of John weaves themes into one another like a beautiful tapestry. That is clearly what is going on here in John 14. At the heart of it is that Jesus will not abandon his followers. He loves them and wants them to love him by keeping his commandments (v. 15), which is to love one another (13:34). Jesus will remain with us, his followers, through the presence of "another Advocate" (v. 16), just as Jesus himself is an advocate (1 John 2:1). The word "advocate" in the original Greek also means counselor, helper, or intercessor. The Advocate is here to help us. Like Jesus, the other advocate is the Holy Spirit, "Spirit of truth," just as Jesus is the truth (John 14:6). After Jesus' death, resurrection, and ascension, we still have Jesus with us through the Advocate, the Spirit of truth, the Spirit of Christ Jesus. The Holy Spirit makes Christ a reality in our lives today in that we may love one another and the world as God does (John 3:16). We are not abandoned after Jesus' ascension; we are empowered to live out the new commandment to love one another and the world. How do you, as a follower of Jesus, live out the new commandment?

Pray: The Lord's Prayer.

SERVICE

Jesus gives us the commandment to love others by the power of the Holy Spirit (John 14:15-21). There are times when it is not easy to love because of actions or things said or not said. Think of someone that it is not easy to care for and offer this prayer for them: **Dear Jesus, open my heart to the needs of others. Help me to care for (name) with your love. Amen.**

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In John 14:15-21, Jesus gives us the promise of the Holy Spirit. One pivotal principle of faith formation is that faith is formed by the power of the Holy Spirit through personal, trusted relationships. Write a list of people who have influenced your life of faith. How did they influence you? Name a person who you have or would like to influence and pray for them this week asking for the power of the Holy Spirit to form a trusted relationship.



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