



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 21, 2023

Seventh 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:

"Praise Him, Praise Him"

OSB #167
vv. 1,3&5

- 1. Praise Him, praise Him, all ye little children,
God is love, God is love;
Praise Him, praise Him, all ye little children,
God is love, God is love.**
- 3. Thank Him, thank Him, all ye little children,
God is love, God is love;
Thank Him, thank Him, all ye little children,
God is love, God is love.**
- 5. Crown Him, crown Him, all ye little children,
God is love, God is love;
Crown Him, crown Him, all ye little children,
God is love, God is love.**

***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:**

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.**

Page 139

**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**

O God of glory,
your **Son Jesus Christ** suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. **Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, 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 1:6-14

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.

¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

Read Responsively

¹Let God arise, and let God's enemies be scattered;
let those who hate God flee.

²**As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away;
as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

³But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;
let them also be merry and joyful.

⁴**Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who rides the clouds;
I AM is that name, rejoice before God!**

⁵In your holy habitation, O God,
you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

⁶**you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom;
but the rebels shall live in desert places.**

⁷O God, when you went forth before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,

⁸**the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God,
the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

⁹You sent a bountiful rain, O God;
you restored your inheritance when it languished.

¹⁰**Your people found their home in it;
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**

³²Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.

³³**You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens;
you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.**

³⁴Ascribe power to God,
whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

³⁵**How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel,
giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!**

Second reading: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

^{4:12}Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.

¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. ^{5:6}Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

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 17:1-11**

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

¹After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them.

¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

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:**

“Blessing, Honor, and Glory”

W&P #21

**Blessing, honor, glory to the Lamb.
Holy, righteous, worthy is the Lamb.
Death could not hold him down,
for he is risen!
Seated upon the throne,
he is the Lamb of God!
Blessing, honor, glory to the Lamb.
Holy, righteous, worthy is the Lamb.
Death could not hold him down,
for he is risen!
Seated upon the throne,
he is the Lamb of God!
Blessing, honor, glory to the Lamb.
Holy, righteous, worthy is the Lamb of 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.**

***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

Offertory: "Mighty is Our God"

Choir

***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:

“We Will Glorify”

W&P #154

1. We will glorify the King of kings
We will glorify the Lamb
We will glorify the Lord of lords
Who is the great I Am
2. Lord Jehovah reigns in majesty
We will bow before His throne
We will worship Him in righteousness
We will worship Him alone
3. He is Lord of heaven Lord of earth
He is Lord of all who live
He is Lord above the universe
All praise to Him we give
4. Hallelujah to the King of kings
Hallelujah to the Lamb
Hallelujah to the Lord of lords
Who is the great I Am

*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** (recovering), **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 Shirlie 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).



Grant Hinze, 5/24; Beth Janecek, 5/25; Jan Wylie, 5/25; Hunter Walker, 5/25;
Larry Gibbs, 5/26; Shelby Hinze, 5/27; Marlene Downer, 5/28; Jensen Bedlan, 5/28

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.



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.



SULLIVAN HILLS CAMP

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.



JAM will be taking a break during the summer.

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!



Larry Gibbs

WORSHIP LEADERS

This 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: *Please sign up!*

Next Sunday – May 28

USHERS: Chris & Barb Jensen

LAY READER: Mary Jo Huelle

HEAD COMMUNION ASST: Jack Martin

COMMUNION ASSTS: Abby Newsom & Marissa Wright

POWERPOINT: Andi Dorn

ACOLYTES: DaKota Newsom & 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, May 21

10 a.m. – Worship

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

Monday, May 22

5 p.m. – Parish Ed

Tuesday, May 23

12 p.m. – Sarah Study

1 p.m. – Quilting

Wednesday, May 24

7 p.m. – Choir Practice

Saturday, May 27

5:30 p.m. – Worship

Sunday, May 28

10 a.m. – Worship

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

MAY 21, 2023
SEVENTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER



Followers of Jesus pray.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 17:1-11	Jesus prays for his disciples
Monday	Acts 1:6-14	Ascension of Jesus
Tuesday	1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11	Tending the flock of God
Wednesday	1 Thessalonians 5:12-22	Final instructions
Thursday	James 5:13-18	The prayer of faith
Friday	Ephesians 6:18-20	Pray at all times
Saturday	Psaln 68:1-10, 32-35	Praise and thanksgiving
Sunday	John 20:19-23	Jesus appears to his disciples

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

All these [the remaining 11 disciples] were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers. Acts 1:14 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, give us a heart to have a relationship with you through prayer that our lives may be filled with hope and confidence through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God of abundance, we thank you for this food, a gift of your constant love and care for us through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God of all grace strengthen you now and always through Christ our Lord. (1 Peter 5:10)



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

MAY 21, 2023



HYMN OF THE WEEK

*What a Friend We
Have in Jesus*

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:

- When do you pray and what do you pray for?
- How does prayer guide you as a follower of Jesus Christ?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Acts 1:6-14.

After Jesus' ascension, the remaining 11 disciples and others "were constantly devoting themselves to prayer" (v. 14). The church begins its ministry with prayer. Waiting in prayer for guidance is the model for the church. Prayer is a way to face suffering as a follower of Christ with hope and even joy (1 Peter 4:13). Jesus prays for his followers that they may receive eternal life by knowing God and Jesus Christ, the one sent by God (John 17:3). The prayers of the church give Jesus' disciples the eyes to see with faith what the world cannot see. In the midst of conflict, prayer communicates praise to God for God's victory over God's enemies (Psalm 68). The first Christians were not self-proclaimed masters of prayer, but through prayer they learned to pray and witness to God's presence in the world.

Discuss: How have you learned through prayer to witness to God's presence in the world?
Pray: Ever-present God, give us patience to wait in prayer for your guidance so that we may see our way in life with faith in you through Christ Jesus, your Son and our Lord. Amen.

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you serve others who are hurting and can benefit from your prayers?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Ascension Day always falls on a Thursday (May 18 this year) and marks the last appearance of Jesus to the disciples after his resurrection. It also marks the fortieth day after Easter Sunday. The Easter season ends ten days after Ascension Day. Finish reading the Gospel of John as the Easter season ends. There is an old tradition that the clouds on Ascension Day took the form of lambs in honor of the Lamb of God. Go outside and look at the clouds in the sky. Think or talk about Jesus' ascension and say, *All hail! Jesus has ascended! Alleluia!*



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