



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 9, 2021

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Prayer Before Worship: Loving God, help us to love others as Christ has loved us. Bring us into the spiritual joy of living our lives as your friend, and teach us to abide in your love, that we may show your love to 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.)

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 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

Welcome and Announcements

✠WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS✠

Thanksgiving for Baptism

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God,
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**

O God,
you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our 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 10:44-48

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have? ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 98

¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

²**O LORD, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

⁵Sing to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,
the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸**Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**

⁹The LORD will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-16

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. ⁷There are three that testify: ⁸the Spirit and the water and the blood, and these three agree. ⁹If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

¹⁴And this is the boldness we have in him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. ¹⁵And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have obtained the requests made of him. ¹⁶If you see your brother or sister committing what is not a mortal sin, you will ask, and God will give life to such a one — to those whose sin is not mortal. There is sin that is mortal; I do not say that you should pray about that.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation:**

“Open our eyes, Lord”

W&P #113

**Open our eyes, Lord; we want to see Jesus,
To reach out and touch Him, and say that we love Him.
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.**

***Gospel: John 15:9-17**

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

⁹As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

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

Sermon:

Pastor Sheryl

(Silence for Reflection and Meditation.)

‡WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD‡

***Song of the Day:**

“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

ELW #708

Refrain

**Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.**

**1. Kneels at the feet of his friends,
silently washes their feet,
master who acts as a slave to them.**

Refrain

**2. Neighbors are wealthy and poor,
varied in color and race,
neighbors are near us and far away.**

Refrain

**3. These are the ones we will serve,
these are the ones we will love;
all these are neighbors to us and you.**

Refrain

**4. Kneel at the feet of our friends,
silently washing their feet:
this is the way we will live with you.**

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:**

(Sung Prayer Response)

W&P #27

**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.

God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. 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

The risen Christ invites us to this table.

Come, eat and be satisfied.

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.)

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Post-Communion Prayer**

Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

‡WE DEPART TO SERVE‡

***Benediction**

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

***Sending Song:**

“Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks”

**WOV #671
vv. 1,2&5**

Refrain

Alleluia, alleluia,
Give thanks to the risen Lord;
Alleluia, alleluia,
Give praise to his name.

1. Jesus is Lord of all the earth;
He is the King of creation.

Refrain

2. Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and has risen.

Refrain

5. Come, let us praise the living God,
Joyfully sing to our Savior.

Refrain

*Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Copyright Permissions: Liturgy: From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2015 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS103411.

Music: Open Our Eyes, Lord: Bob Cull, CCLI Song # 1572 © 1976 Maranatha! Music (Admin. by Maranatha! Music) CCCM Music (Admin. by Maranatha! Music) For use solely with the SongSelect Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1825044; **Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love:** Text: Tom Colvin, 1925-2000, alt. Text © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. OneLicense.net A-705226; **Cares Chorus:** CCLI Song # 25974 Kelly Willard© 1978 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) For use solely with the SongSelect®. Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1825044; **Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks:** CCLI Song # 32376 Donald E. Fishel © 1973 International Liturgy Publication For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1825044

✠In Our Thoughts and Prayers✠

Prayers for healing: **LaDonna Schmidt** (recovering from colon cancer surgery), **Lorene** (cancer—Mike Belgum’s mother), **Deb** (knee replacement surgery—Janet Miller’s sister), **Teigen Brunner** (Healing—Deb Brown’s grandson), **John Rahrs** (heart surgery—Val Rahrs’ dad), **Syl Holdt** (recovering from knee surgery), **Greta Mehling** (Health Issues), **Caleb Payne** (health issues), **Bruce** (Cancer treatments—friend of Jean Collins & Cathy Johnson), **Bill Steele** (Recovering at home), **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 of comfort and peace: For the family & friends of **Archie Wyatt Wilson** (infant son of Kaitlyn Blunt & grandson of Lisa & Terry Wilson), For the family & friends of **Kent Zweifel** (Robert & Deanna Zweifel’s son)

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, 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.)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jodi Christeleit, 5/10; Shari Copsey, 5/12; Virginia Pickett, 5/12

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 **Give+Church 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.



WOMEN OF THE ELCA MAY 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. The kitchen could use the following: dish soap, scratch pads, paper towels, napkins, Country Time lemonade, salt and pepper, coffee creamer, Comet, aluminum foil. Saran Wrap or Press N Seal, (quart & gallon) Zip Lock Bags, and artificial sweetener.

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 WELCA on the envelope.





SENIOR RECOGNITION - SUNDAY May 16th

Join us at the worship service at 10am to honor and celebrate **Emma Foote, Grace Michael, and Katie Newton** as they graduate from high school.

On the weekend of May 22nd & 23rd, we will be celebrating Pentecost. You are invited to wear red to worship, the color of the Holy Spirit. You are also invited to bring red geraniums to help decorate our sanctuary that weekend and then they will be planted in the church flower beds to remind of us of the Holy Spirit's presence in our lives in the coming months.



6-week digital course on **faith & money**

- ✓ Increase Savings
- ✓ Eliminate Debt
- ✓ Live generously

Enroll today in a six-week digital course on money and faith. Discover how a grace-filled way of thinking and feeling about money can bring hope and freedom to strengthen our relationship with Jesus and enhance our generosity. Explore money focused on values, agility, options, scarcity, integrity, and giving.

<https://start.sixweeksonmoney.com/courses/ELCA>

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.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastors Chris and Sheryl Kester Beyer

This Sunday – May 9

USHERS: Kent & Dawn Holub

LAY READER: Susan Martin

COMMUNION ASST: Dennis Gorr

POWERPOINT: Matt Payne

MEDIA: Jeff Van Patten

ALTAR GUILD: Andi Dorn, Shelly Koehler

PIANIST: Dee Brady

Next Sunday – May 16

USHERS: Chris & Barb Jensen

LAY READER: Angie Hinze

COMMUNION ASST: Bill Huelle

POWERPOINT: Andi Dorn

MEDIA: Maunette Loeks-Van Patten

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

ORGANIST: Rhonda Boettcher

SONG LEADER:

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, May 9

Mother's Day

10 a.m. – Worship

Monday, May 10

2 p.m. – Priscilla Circle @ Fellowship Hall

6 p.m. – Council

6:30 p.m. – Hannah Circle @ Education Wing (Salad Supper)

Tuesday, May 11

9 a.m. – Esther Circle

12 p.m. – Women's Study @ Calvary

1 p.m. – Quilting

Wednesday, May 12

6 p.m. – JAM

7 p.m. – Choir Practice

Saturday, May 15

9 a.m. – Trustees

5:30 p.m. – Worship

Sunday, May 16

Senior Recognition Sunday

10 a.m. – Worship

MAY 9, 2021
SIXTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER



Love one another.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 15:9-17	Love one another
Monday	Acts 10:44-48	Gentiles receive the Holy Spirit
Tuesday	1 John 5:1-6	Faith conquers the world
Wednesday	Romans 12:9-21	Love with sincerity
Thursday	Luke 24:44-53	Jesus ascends to heaven
Friday	Leviticus 19:17-18, 33-36	Ritual and moral holiness
Saturday	Psalms 98	Make a joyful noise
Sunday	John 17:6-19	Christ's prayer for his disciples

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

John 15:12 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Gracious and loving God, give us the faith and courage to love one another as you have loved us through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Almighty God, we thank you for this food; may it strengthen us to love others as you have loved us through Christ Jesus. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May your love for God and one another give you joy that knows no end.



© 2020 Milestones Ministry, LLC. All rights reserved.

MAY 9, 2021
HYMN OF THE WEEK
Oh, Sing to the Lord



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 makes it easy to love others? What makes it hard?
- How does Jesus' unconditional love show us the importance of loving others?
- How does Jesus' life, death, and resurrection show us what true love is all about?

DEVOTIONS

Read: John 15:9-17.

This passage intimately connects a relationship of Jesus and "the Father" with Jesus' own followers. The relationship is woven together through the language of commandments and love, and the two are brought together in verse 12: "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." The Gospel of John does not have the "Great Commandment" dialog as in Matthew, Mark, and Luke. However, the theme here is the same: love God and love neighbor. The emphasis in John is that love is the way to have an enduring relationship with God and with brothers and sisters in the faith, those whom Jesus calls "friends." The word for friends in Greek is "loved ones." Love—not judgment and ridicule—is how Jesus relates to us. It is how we, as Jesus' friends, are to approach the world so that our joy may be complete. How does love change our relationship with others? How does a commitment to love others change us?

Pray: Loving God, we thank you for showing us the depth of your love for us through the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of your Son and our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

SERVICE

In the Bible, love is more than an emotion. Love is a commitment to care for others with our whole being. Conflict can get in the way of this love. Bringing God into our conflicted relationships can be a difference maker. This week think of those you have a conflict or tensions with, and pray to God for a clean and loving heart to reconcile your relationships.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The theme this week is "Love one another." May 9 is observed as Mother's Day in the United States. Reflect on the women in your life who have loved and cared for you. Think or talk about what you learned from them and how you show love to others. *Pray:* Dear God, thank you for your love. Thank you for flame women who have cared for you! Give us courage to love all people as you have loved us. Amen.



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

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