



# 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](http://calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org)

**Sunday Morning Worship**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**November 15, 2020**

## Consecration Sunday

*Consecrate (kon'se krät) v.t.-crated, -crating 1. To set apart as sacred; dedicate to sacred uses. 2. To dedicate solemnly or devote: to consecrate one's life to a cause. **SO**, what is God calling you to set apart for God's use through Calvary?*

**Prayer Before Worship:** Eternal God, you alone are the constant refuge of all the children of earth. Hold all our years in the day of your grace, and grant us wisdom to worship and serve you faithfully throughout our span of life; 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.)*

**KEY:** ELW = Worship hymnal (cranberry)

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 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)*

We gather together, as the baptized people of God in the name of the Father, ‡ Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Whatever good we may have done is nothing compared to the righteousness of Christ. Whatever wrong we may have done is nothing compared to the grace of God. With faith in Christ's righteousness and confidence in God's grace, let us confess our sin in the presence of one another and of God.

*(silence for reflection and self-examination)*

Faithful God,  
**have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs and wants before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, forgive our sins, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world. Amen.

**"Come, Now Is The Time To Worship "**

**Choir**

**\*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,  
**The gift of your Son is the life-changing treasure that is truly beyond all value. Your generosity and goodness astound us! Inspire us to use the talents you have given us to share your gospel, that all may enter into the joy of Christ; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord Amen.**

## ‡GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO US‡

### First Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! <sup>4</sup>But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; <sup>5</sup>for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; <sup>7</sup>for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 90:1-8

<sup>1</sup>Lord, you have been our refuge  
from one generation to another.

**<sup>2</sup>Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,  
from age to age you are God.**

<sup>3</sup>You turn us back to the dust and say,  
"Turn back, O children of earth."

**<sup>4</sup>For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past  
and like a watch in the night;**

<sup>5</sup>you sweep them away like a dream,  
they fade away suddenly like the grass:

**<sup>6</sup>in the morning it is green and flourishes;  
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

<sup>7</sup>For we are consumed by your anger;  
we are afraid because of your wrath.

**<sup>8</sup>Our iniquities you have set before you,  
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

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

**\*Scripture Reading: Matthew 25:14-30**

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

<sup>14</sup>For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup>to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup>But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. <sup>19</sup>After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>22</sup>And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>24</sup>Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' <sup>26</sup>But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter?' <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

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

**Sermon:**

**Pastor Sheryl**

*(Silence for Reflection and Meditation.)*

**‡WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD‡**

**\*Hymn:**

**“As Saints of Old”**

**ELW #695  
vv. 1&2**

- 1. As those of old their first fruits brought  
of orchard, flock, and field  
to God, the giver of all good,  
the source of bounteous yield,  
so we today our first fruits would bring,  
the wealth of this good land,  
of farm and market, shop and home,  
of mind and heart and hand.**
  
- 2. A world in need now summons us  
to labor, love, and give;  
to make our life an offering  
to God, that all may live.  
The church of Christ is calling us  
to make the dream come true;  
a world redeemed by Christ-like love;  
all life in Christ made new.**

**\*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:*

.... reign forever and ever. **Amen.**

**\*Exchange of Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Presentation of Gifts and Pledges**

**\*Offertory Prayer**

Having offered ourselves and our gifts to God, let us pray.

**Generous God, when we hoard your gifts, we dishonor you. Teach us to give joyously and with thanksgiving the talents and gifts which you have given us. Bless our offerings and our pledges, and work through our generosity to bring about your reign on earth, for the sake of Jesus Christ our 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**

Come, for the gifts of God are ready for the people of God.

**Distribution of Communion:**

*For those interested in receiving Holy Communion, please meet the communion servers  
in the parking lot for Drive-Through Communion: We will be serving communion  
immediately following the worship service this morning from approximately 10:45 a.m.-  
11:15 a.m.*

**\*Hymn:**

**“Praise and Thanksgiving”**

**ELW #689  
vv. 1&2**

- 1. Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer  
for all things living, you have made good:  
harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,  
hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.**
- 2. God, bless the labor we bring to serve you,  
that with our neighbor we may be fed.  
Sowing or tilling, we would work with you,  
harvesting, milling for daily bread.**

**\*Post-Communion Blessing**



### **\*Post-Communion Prayer**

We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**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.**

### **\*Hymn:**

**“Praise and Thanksgiving”**

**ELW #689**

**vv. 4**

**4. Then will your blessing reach ev'ry people,  
freely confessing your gracious hand.  
Where you are reigning, no one will hunger;  
your love sustaining showers the land.**

### **\*Dismissal**

Go in peace. Love your neighbor as Christ loves you.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Postlude Music:**

**Rhonda Boettcher**

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**Give Online** button OR download the **Give+Church**



**App** on your smartphone. It's safe and secure.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Roger Jensen, 11/15; Victoria Holub, 11/20;  
Austin Miller, 11/20; David Kleensang, 11/21

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

## ✝In Our Thoughts and Prayers✝

Prayers for healing: **Linda Halley** (open heart surgery—sister-in-law of Kent & Pam Halley), **Dawsyn Buckley** (surgery—great grandson of Jim & Sheila Miller), **Shelia Colson** (hospitalized—mother-in-law of Nannie Walsh's sister), **Claudia** (bedrest for pregnancy), **Amber** (fighting COVID-19), **Myron Loseke**, **Barb Michael** (Broken Hip—Bill Michael's mom), **Jerry Weekes** (recovering from a horse accident), **Reuben & Gloria Gorr** (health issues), **Alan** (recovery of vision—Kathy Randall's cousin), **Jordan Hein** (cancer treatment—former member of Calvary), **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).

Prayers for comfort and peace for: Family and friends of **Wilma Buchhammer** (mother of Mark Buchhammer), **Dorothy Kraft** (Trisha Foote's mom), **Shirley Loos** (friend of Kathy Johnson & Jean Collins), **Frank Vetter** (Mary Jo Huelle's cousin), **Tom Walsh** (Nannie Walsh's father in-law)

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



## **NOVEMBER FOOD DONATIONS REQUESTED**

**FOOD PANTRY:** baking supplies

**BACKPACKS:** granola bars

Containers are located outside Fellowship Hall.

Thanks for your generosity.



## **WOMEN OF THE ELCA NOVEMBER MISSION PROJECT:**

Our mission project for November is our “**THANKOFFERINGS.**” Every day throughout the year, we have many things to be thankful for. Traditionally, each day, women would drop some spare change into a sugar cup or jar as they gave thanks for their blessings. Then at the end of the year, they would donate their Thankoffering for various ministry or mission projects.

Following this tradition, November has been set aside to collect the Thankofferings from the women and men in our congregation. We ask for you to put your Thankofferings in an envelope and then the offering plates on any November Sunday.

Our Thankofferings support our partnership with Women of the ELCA through Katie’s Fund. Katherina von Bora Luther was a practical and bold woman of faith. These funds help honor her life by supporting global connections, leadership development, and living theology.



### **JAM on Wednesdays!**

Due to COVID-19 concerns JAM has been suspended until further notice. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Angie, Pastor Chris, or Pastor Sheryl at the church.

### **EPIC Youth Group**

Due to COVID-19 concerns Epic Movie Night Take Two has been cancelled. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Angie, Pastor Chris, or Pastor Sheryl at the church.





**Lutheran Disaster Response**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
 God's work. Our hands.

**Lutheran Disaster Response**



Wildfires in the West. Hurricanes in the South. Tornadoes in the Midwest. Covid-19. Throughout our nation and around the world, disaster strikes with alarming frequency and sometimes it can feel as if we are helpless in the face of it all. But whenever and

wherever disaster strikes, you are there through the work of Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR), not only in the immediate aftermath but also long after the disaster has faded from the headlines. Your donations to the work of LDR are critical in allowing LDR to make a difference when disaster strikes. If you have not already done so, please consider making a donation to Lutheran Disaster Response either by going to: <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response> or by making a donation to Calvary specifically earmarked for Lutheran Disaster Response or if you wish you can even be more specific by writing 'wildfires', 'hurricanes', etc. in your memo line. And remember, 100% of what you donate will go for disaster response!



*Connecting faith & finances for good.™*

**Thrivent Financial**

Are you a Thrivent member? And if you are, do you know that as a Thrivent member (depending on what investments or products you have with Thrivent) you might have Thrivent Choice dollars that you can designate to a non-profit ministry of your choice including Calvary Lutheran and hundreds of other ministries every year? And that you also have at least \$250 dollars (and possibly \$500) per year that you can choose to kickstart a Thrivent Action Project that can make a difference in our church or community.

For example, this fall a member of Calvary used their \$250 to purchase the backpacks and some of the supplies that were used to fill the School Backpacks for Lutheran World Relief. To direct your Thrivent Choice dollars, start a Thrivent Action Project or simply to learn more go to: <https://www.thrivent.com/what-we-offer/generosity/>, talk to



Chris or Sheryl or talk to your Thrivent agent



## WORSHIP LEADERS

**Pastors Chris and Sheryl Kester Beyer**

### **This Sunday – November 15**

**USHERS:** Dennis & Barb Gorr

**LAY READER:** Kathy Randall

**COMMUNION ASST:** Bill Huelle

**POWERPOINT:** Mary Jo Huelle

**MEDIA:** Jeff Van Patten

**ALTAR GUILD:** Deb Brown, Vicki Howell,  
Tracy Steele

**ORGANIST:** Rhonda Boettcher

**SONG LEADER:** Val Rahrs

### **Next Sunday – November 22**

**USHERS:** Kent & Dawn Holub

**LAY READER:** Marti Wegelin

**COMMUNION ASST:** Colter Burkey

**POWERPOINT:** Shawna Payne

**MEDIA:** Maunette Loeks-Van Patten

**ALTAR GUILD:** Andi Dorn, Carmen  
Kleager, Shelly Koehler, Jessica Laughlin

**PIANIST:** Dee Brady

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **Sunday, November 15**

#### **Consecration Sunday**

10 a.m. – Worship

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

### **Monday, November 16**

5 p.m. – Elders

6 p.m. – Stewards

6 p.m. – Worship & Music

### **Tuesday, November 17**

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

12 p.m. – Women's Study @ Calvary  
1 p.m. – Quilting

7 p.m. – Pastor's Bible Study

7:30 p.m. – Confirmation on Zoom

### **Wednesday, November 18**

6 - 7 p.m. – **NO** JAM

7 p.m. – Choir Practice

### **Thursday, November 19**

1:30 p.m. – Parkinson's Support

### **Sunday, November 22**

10 a.m. – Worship

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

NOVEMBER 15, 2020  
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST

taking+  
faith  
home

*The importance of encouraging one another.*

#### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 25:14-30	Parable of the talents
Monday	Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18	Judgment of Judah
Tuesday	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Encourage one another
Wednesday	Judges 4:1-7	Deborah and Barak
Thursday	Psalms 123	A prayer for mercy
Friday	Philemon 1:4-7	Philemon's love and faith
Saturday	Psalms 90:1-12	God is eternal
Sunday	Matthew 25:31-46	The sheep and the goats

#### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing. **1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NRSV)**

#### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

##### A Prayer for the Week:

Gracious God, we thank you for the body of Christ that helps us when life is difficult and our faith is weak. Amen.

##### Mealtime Prayer:

Lord God, you who make the earth fruitful, we thank you for this meal that strengthens our bodies and encourages our souls. Amen.

##### A Blessing to Give:

May the Almighty God strengthen your soul through brothers and sisters in Christ. (1 Thessalonians 5:11)



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NOVEMBER 15, 2020  
HYMN OF THE WEEK  
*Will You Let Me Be  
Your Servant*

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:

- How do you support someone when they are discouraged or are feeling down?
- How has someone supported you when you were in need of encouragement?
- Why do you think Christians need support and encouragement from one another?

#### DEVOTIONS

*Read:* 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11.

Good times and hard times can happen—and change—rather quickly (v. 3). Daily life is fragile. Life experiences can change dramatically with a phone call. What is constant is the need to care for one another and build up the body of Christ. There are important connections between this text and the parable of the talents in Matthew 25. God has gifted us to use our vocation, our calling in life as a child of God, to do God's work in the world. If we do not do this, if we ignore or hide our calling, the ministry of the church suffers. Instead, we are to trust in a God who acts; we are not to fall prey to complacency and speak and live as though God is not present and active in our lives and history (Zephaniah 1:12). Paul reminds the people that they—and we—are to reach out to others—especially our brothers and sisters in the faith. We are to do so with encouragement: to live each day in faith, love, and hope because of the God who acts and has given us "salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thessalonians 5:9). How are you encouraged by others to live your faith? How do you encourage others?  
*Pray:* God of grace, we thank you for the cloud of witnesses that walk alongside us to strengthen us in faith, love, and hope through Christ. Amen.

#### SERVICE

Jesus' parable of the talents makes a strong case for every Christian to have a calling, to use one's gifts and passions to serve the church and the world. Make a list of how to use your gifts and talents to serve the church and world around you.

#### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

A talent in Jesus' day was money. Jesus tells a story about three servants. One hid his money and never used it. In our day, we think of a talent as a natural ability to be good at something. If we are good at something, we should not hide our talent but use it to the best of our ability. Drawing, singing, and dancing are a few talents. Think of what talent(s) you have and in what ways you can tell others about Jesus by using that talent. Each day this week choose one talent to use and say this prayer: "Dear God, help me to use my talents, whether big or small, so that others know you. Amen."



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

For a larger printable 'Taking Faith Home' go to our website [calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org](http://calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org)