



# 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 26, 2023**

## Christ the King Sunday

**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 increase your 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. Please join us again soon!*

*(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:

**“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!”**

**ELW #634  
vv. 1,2&5**

**1. All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!**

**Let angels prostrate fall;  
bring forth the royal diadem  
and crown him Lord of all.  
Bring forth the royal diadem  
and crown him Lord of all.**

**2. O seed of Israel's chosen race  
now ransomed from the fall,  
hail him who saves you by his grace  
and crown him Lord of all.  
Hail him who saves you by his grace  
and crown him Lord of all.**

**5. Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe  
on this terrestrial ball  
to him all majesty ascribe  
and crown him Lord of all.**

**\*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 holy Trinity, † one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.**

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

Holy One,

**We confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

Beloved,

we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through † Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world. **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 of power and might,

**your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, 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: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24**

<sup>11</sup>For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out.

<sup>12</sup>As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup>I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. <sup>14</sup>I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup>I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. <sup>16</sup>I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

<sup>20</sup>Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup>Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, <sup>22</sup>I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

<sup>23</sup>I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup>And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 95:1-7a**

<sup>1</sup>Come, let us sing to the LORD;  
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

<sup>2</sup>**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

<sup>3</sup>For you, LORD, are a great God,  
and a great ruler above all gods.

<sup>4</sup>**In your hand are the caverns of the earth;  
the heights of the hills are also yours.**

<sup>5</sup>The sea is yours, for you made it,  
and your hands have molded the dry land.

<sup>6</sup>**Come, let us worship and bow down,  
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

<sup>7a</sup>For the LORD is our God,  
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

## **Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23**

<sup>15</sup>I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup>so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup>God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup>And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

### **\*Gospel Acclamation:**

**Page 142**

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

### **\*Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46**

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

<sup>31</sup>When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. <sup>32</sup>All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, <sup>33</sup>and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. <sup>34</sup>Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; <sup>35</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup>I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' <sup>37</sup>Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup>And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup>And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' <sup>40</sup>And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

<sup>41</sup>Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; <sup>42</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' <sup>44</sup>Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' <sup>45</sup>Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' <sup>46</sup>And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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

**Kids Sermon:**

**PMA Bill Huelle**

**Sermon:**

**PMA Bill Huelle**

*(Silence for Reflection and Meditation.)*

**‡WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD‡**

**\*Hymn of the Day:**

**"For the Fruit of all Creation"**

**ELW #679  
vv. 1&2**

- 1. For the fruit of all creation,  
thanks be to God.  
For these gifts to ev'ry nation,  
thanks be to God.  
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,  
silent growth while we are sleeping,  
future needs in earth's safekeeping,  
thanks be to God.**
  
- 2. In the just reward of labor,  
God's will is done.  
In the help we give our neighbor,  
God's will is done.  
In our worldwide task of caring  
for the hungry and despairing,  
in the harvests we are sharing,  
God's will is done.**

**\*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 Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**\*Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

**“Seek Ye First”**

**Choir**

### **\*Offertory Prayer**

God of all goodness,  
generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. 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**

There is a place for you at the banquet.  
Come and feast at Jesus' table.

### **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 two stations in the front of the church.*

*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.)*

**Distribution Music:**

**Tahnee Hutchinson**



### **\*Post-Communion Blessing**

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

Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way. **Amen.**

### **‡WE DEPART TO SERVE‡**

### **\*Benediction**

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, ‡ Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always. **Amen.**

### **\*Sending Hymn:**

**“Lead On, O King Eternal”**

**ELW #805  
vv. 1&3**

**1. Lead on, O King eternal!  
The day of march has come;  
henceforth in fields of conquest  
your tents will be our home.  
Through days of preparation  
your grace has made us strong;  
and now, O King eternal,  
we lift our battle song.**

**3. Lead on, O King eternal:  
we follow, not with fears,  
for gladness breaks like morning  
where'er your face appears.  
Your cross is lifted o'er us;  
we journey in its light;  
the crown awaits the conquest;  
lead on, O God of might!**

### **\*Dismissal**

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

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### In Our Thoughts and Prayers†

Prayers for healing: **David Pickett** (Healing—son of Virginia Pickett), **David Stevens** (recovering), **Becky Martin** (recovering), **Fran Johnson** (recovering from surgery), **Alli Meyers** (Health Problems—Marissa Wright's friend), **Joy Arnold** (Cancer), **Joni** (stage 4 cancer), **Aimee Roos** (colon cancer & critical kidney disease—Penny Stevens' nephew's wife), **Kathy Johnson** (health issues), **William Gibbs** (Cancer—brother of Larry Gibbs), **Vicki Schmidt** (cancer treatment), **Linda Spomer**, **Catherine Rahrs** (Val Rahrs' mother), **Patty** (cancer—Jim Dorn's sister-in-law).

Prayers for comfort and peace for: Family and friends of **Elnora Sell**, **Donna Hackman** and **Darrel Schafer** (Father of Randy Schafer).

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



Donna Hessler, 11/30; Tammy Lutz, 12/2

*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](http://www.calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org) and click on the **Give Online** button OR download the **Vanco Now App** on your smartphone. It's safe and secure.



**DECEMBER FOOD DONATIONS REQUESTED**

**FOOD PANTRY:** Packaged Cookies

**BACKPACKS:** Applesauce

Containers are located outside Fellowship Hall.

Thanks for your generosity.



**CLCW DECEMBER MISSION PROJECT:**

**Angel Tree**

The Angel Tree will be up next weekend! Paper ornaments are on the tree with first name, age, and gift idea. Names are from the Lakota Lutheran Center. **Please bring your gift NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15th.** Please see the December Tidings for more information.



**JAM on Wednesdays from 5:30-7:00 p.m.**

Our Wednesday evening youth group is for kids in kindergarten through 6th grade. We begin with dinner (sloppy joes/chips/fruit/dessert) at 5:30 p.m. followed by storytelling, music, crafts, games, and lots of fun until 7 p.m. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Angie at the church.



## **BELL RINGING FOR THE SALVATION ARMY**

Volunteers are needed to ring bells for the Salvation Army at Safeway on **Saturday, December 9th from 9 am through 6 pm**. If you are willing to volunteer, please stop or call the church office to sign up.



**Endowment Fund** application forms are now available in the office. These funds may be used for outreach: Churchwide, Nebraska Synod, and local. The deadline is January 31, 2023.



**ELCA GOOD GIFTS** *How it works*

- 1**  Choose your gift.
- 2**  Get a card.
- 3**  Change lives.

Give an unexpected gift this Christmas. Gifts that grow the church, fight hunger, and transform lives. Meaningful gifts for everyone on your list. See the bulletin board next to the Fellowship Hall or visit <https://goodgifts.elca.org/> for your gift options.

## WORSHIP LEADERS

**PMA Bill Huelle**

**This Sunday – November 26**

**USHERS:** Jack Martin

**LAY READER:** Mary Jo Huelle

**HEAD COMMUNION ASST:** Barb Jensen

**COMMUNION ASSTS:** Chris Thomas & Tracy Steele

**POWERPOINT:** Andi Dorn

**ACOLYTES:** Kippen & Jacey Cochran

**MEDIA:** Chris Jensen

**AUDIO:** Jim Dorn

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

**ORGANIST:** Tahnee Hutchinson

**COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP:** *Please sign up!*

**Next Sunday – December 3**

**USHERS:** Monty & Shari Copsey

**LAY READER:** Marissa Wright

**HEAD COMMUNION ASST:** Vicki Howell

**COMMUNION ASSTS:** Deb Brown & Marlene Downer

**POWERPOINT:** Matt Payne

**ACOLYTES:** Merrick Walsh & DaKota Newsom

**MEDIA:** Jeff Van Patten

**AUDIO:** Maunette Loeks-Van Patten

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

**PIANIST:** Tahnee Hutchinson

**COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP:** *Please sign up!*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Sunday, November 26**

10 a.m. – Worship

11 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship

**Monday, November 27**

5 p.m. – Parish Ed

**Tuesday, November 28**

1 p.m. – Quilting

**Wednesday, November 29**

5:30 p.m. – JAM

6 p.m. – Confirmation

7p.m. – Choir Practice

**Saturday, December 2**

5:30 p.m. – Worship

**Sunday, December 3**

10 a.m. – Worship

11 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship

NOVEMBER 26, 2023  
CHRIST THE KING  
SUNDAY



*Jesus calls his followers to acts of mercy.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 25:31-46	The sheep and the goats
Monday	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24	God, the true shepherd
Tuesday	Ephesians 1:15-23	Paul's prayer
Wednesday	1 Corinthians 5:1-11	Spiritual gifts
Thursday	Joshua 24:14-28	Always be faithful to the Lord
Friday	1 Peter 5:1-11	Tending the flock of God
Saturday	Psalms 95:1-7a	Worship and obey the Lord
Sunday	Mark 13:24-37	When the Son of Man appears

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. Psalm 95:6-7a (NRSV)*

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, give us eyes to see you and to worship you with our love and service to others for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for creating the earth to be fruitful and satisfy our needs for food and shelter, community and peace. In the name of Christ, amen.

#### A Blessing to Give:

May Christ the King give you peace and courage for each day.

NOVEMBER 26, 2023  
HYMN OF THE WEEK  
*Will You Let Me Be  
Your Servant*



**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 are some duties a shepherd has to do to care for the sheep?
- Jesus is called the Good Shepherd. Why do you think he is called this?

### DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 25:31-46.

In the ancient Near East, the reference to shepherd (v.32) was a reference to the king, the one responsible to care for the people. In the Old Testament, the kings of Israel and Judah usually failed their role as the shepherd who ruled with justice for the poor. In Ezekiel, the Lord takes back the role of king and shepherds the people to safety with the promise of a new shepherd king in the line of David. For the church that shepherd is Jesus, the Son of Man. He comes as judge and as shepherd to separate sheep from goats, the ones who do the will of God and those who do not. The surprise in this reading is that the sheep don't even know they are sheep. They ask when it was that they acted with compassion as though they were serving the Son of Man. The surprising joy is that acts of love and mercy happen even—or especially—when the sheep (followers of Jesus) are not aware of their actions that love others. Following Jesus leads to a life filled with acts of compassion for the poor, the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick and the imprisoned.

Discuss: Where have you seen God's kingdom through people's actions that show love and mercy?

Pray: God of justice and mercy, we pray for your reign to be visible in us that the world may know your care for the poor and others in need through Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen.

### SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you serve the stranger and others who need care?

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

November 26th is the last Sunday in this church year. Think or talk about your involvement in the ministries of the church in the past year. Consider these questions: What were the highlights? In what ways did you grow in your faith? How did you share your faith with others? Take a moment to consider in what ways you will serve in the congregation and the community in the coming year.

Pray: God of glory and might, we give thanks that you are our God and that we are the sheep in your hand through Christ our Lord. (Psalm 95:7a)



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