



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.
October 22, 2023

Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost

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

**“My Lord, What a Morning”
“Give Me Jesus”**

**ELW #438
ELW #770**

Welcome and Announcements

‡WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS‡

Welcome Song:

“Give Thanks”

W&P #41

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son. Repeat**

**And now let the weak say, “I am strong,” Let the poor say
“I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us.” Repeat**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son. Repeat**

**And now let the weak say, “I am strong,” Let the poor say
“I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us.” Repeat
Give thanks.**

***Confession of Sins/Assurance of Forgiveness**

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

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ✠ Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete. **Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Steadfast and faithful God,
you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In ✠ Christ, you are already and always forgiven. **Amen.**

Song of Praise:

"Emmanuel"

W&P #36

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
His name is called Emmanuel;
God with us, revealed in us;
His name is called Emmanuel. *Repeat***

***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.

***Prayer of the Day**

Sovereign God,

raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

‡GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO US‡

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him —
and the gates shall not be closed:

²I will go before you
and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,

³I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I surname you, though you do not know me.

⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.

I arm you, though you do not know me,
⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.

⁷I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96:1-9

¹Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.

²**Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

³Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples.

⁴**For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared than all gods.**

⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

⁶**Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

⁸**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**

⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers,
constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love
and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters
beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to
you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just
as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you
became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word
with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers
in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not
only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known,
so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about
us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to
serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from
the dead — Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

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: Matthew 22:15-22**

Response after the announcement of the gospel:

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

Response after the gospel reading:

Praise to you, O Christ.

Kid's Sermon:

Angie Hinze

Sermon:

PMA Bill Huelle

(Silence for Reflection and Meditation.)

‡WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD‡

***Song of the Day:**

“Here I Am, Lord”

ELW #574

**1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin,
My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?**

*Refrain: Here I am Lord, Is it I Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

**2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have born my people’s pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them,
Whom shall I send? *Refrain***

**3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them,
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide,
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give My life to them.
Whom shall I send? *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**

ELW #178

(Sung Prayer Response)

**Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole:
peace to all people, hope for each soul.
God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.**

***Sharing of the Peace**

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

***Offertory Song:**

“We Are an Offering”

ELW #692

Chorus: **We lift our voices,
We lift our hands,
We lift our lives up to You:
We are an offering.
Lord use our voices,
Lord use our hands,
Lord use our lives,
They are Yours:
We are an offering.**

**All that we have,
All that we are,
All that we hope to be,
We give to You,
We give to You.
We lift our voices,
We lift our hands,
We lift our lives up to You:
We are an offering,
We are an offering.**

***Offertory Prayer**

God of power, God of plenty,
**all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed.
Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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

Jesus invites you to this table.
Come, eat and live.

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 Song:

“Just As I Am”

OSB #119

**1. Just as I am, without one plea,
But that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come! I come!**

**2. Just as I am, and waiting not,
To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come! I come!**

**3. Just as I am, thou' tossed about
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come! I come!**

**4. Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find
O Lamb of God, I come! I come!**

**5. Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come! I come!**

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Post-Communion Prayer**

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

‡WE DEPART TO SERVE‡

***Benediction**

The God of glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

***Sending Song:**

“Take My Life, That I May Be”

ELW #583

Refrain: **Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**1. Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee. *Refrain***

**2. Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose. *Refrain***

**3. Take my voice and let me sing
always, only for my King;
take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee. *Refrain***

**4. Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne. *Refrain***

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

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In Our Thoughts and Prayers†

Prayers for healing: **David Stevens** (serious illness/possible surgery), **Becky Martin** (broken ankle), **Fran Johnson** (knee replacement surgery), **Elnora Sell** (recovering), **Alli Meyers** (Health Problems—Marissa Wright’s friend), **Joy Arnold** (Cancer), **Brenda & kids, 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, Neal Blomenkamp** (recovering), **Catherine Rahrs** (Val Rahrs’ mother), **Patty** (cancer—Jim Dorn’s sister-in-law).

Prayers for comfort and peace for: Family and friends of **Wanda Payne**.

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



Carol Zier, 10/23; Rayce Walsh, 10/24; Paris Miller, 10/24;
Sable Holub, 10/25; Kipp Cochran, 10/25; Diane Vandenberg, 10/27

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.



OCTOBER FOOD DONATIONS REQUESTED

FOOD PANTRY: Canned Veggies

BACKPACKS: Oatmeal

Containers are located outside Fellowship Hall.

Thanks for your generosity.



CLCW OCTOBER MISSION PROJECT: JAM, EPIC & OWLS Programs

JAM Program is for K thru 5th graders and meets Wednesday nights from 5:30 - 7 p.m. @ the Fellowship Hall; includes dinner and fun, faith-filled activities. EPIC Program is for 6th - 12th graders, usually meets twice a month, and includes a fun activity, devotions, and meal. Older Wiser Lutherans, (OWLS), meets the second Wednesday each month, at 12:00 noon in Calvary's fellowship hall – freewill donations. A meal, special speaker or activity, and devotion are shared.

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 (tater tot casserole/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.



Reformation Weekend

On October 28th & 29th, you are invited to wear red, the liturgical color for the Holy Spirit, to worship.



Scholarship Renewal

Reminder for Scholarship applications for second semester 2023-2024 are due at the church office by November 1st, 2023

Pastor Spomer to Be Honored

On October 23, Pastor Larry (and Linda) Spomer will be honored for the 60th anniversary of his ordination. They will be recognized at the Partners in Ministry Banquet to be held as part of the Fall Leadership Gathering in Kearney, NE.

We encourage the members of Calvary to help celebrate this special anniversary. Included is the contact information for the Spomers so you may easily reach out to honor them and this milestone.

Pastor Larry and Linda Spomer
Legacy Estates
7200 Van Dorn St., Apt. 309
Lincoln, NE 68506-3724
402.937.7771
landspomer@gmail.com

WORSHIP LEADERS

PMA Bill Huelle

This Sunday – October 22

USHERS: Vicki Howell & Deb Brown

LAY READER: Mary Jo Huelle

HEAD COMMUNION ASST: Jack Martin

COMMUNION ASSTS: Tracy Steele &
Chris Thomas

POWERPOINT: Andi Dorn

ACOLYTES: Ben Moravec

MEDIA: Jeff Van Patten

AUDIO: Maunette Loeks-Van Patten

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

PIANIST: Tahnee Hutchinson

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP: *Please sign up!*

Next Sunday – October 29

USHERS: Chris & Barb Jensen

LAY READER: Chris Jensen

HEAD COMMUNION ASST: Shari Copsey

COMMUNION ASSTS: Abby Newsom

POWERPOINT: Mary Jo Huelle

ACOLYTES: DaKota Newsom

MEDIA: Maunette Loeks-Van Patten

AUDIO: Jim Dorn

ALTAR GUILD: Andi Dorn, Shelly Koehler

ORGANIST: Tahnee Hutchinson

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP: *Please sign up!*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, October 22

10 a.m. – Worship

11 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship

Monday, October 23

5 p.m. – Parish Ed

Tuesday, October 24

1 p.m. – Quilting

Wednesday, October 25

5:30 p.m. – JAM

6 p.m. Confirmation

7 p.m. – Choir

Saturday, October 28

9 a.m. – Trustees

5:30 p.m. – Worship

Sunday, October 29

Reformation Sunday

10 a.m. – Worship

11 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship

OCTOBER 22, 2023
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking+
faith
home

Love and trust God above everything else.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 22:15-22	The question of paying taxes
Monday	Isaiah 45:1-7	Cyrus serves the Lord
Tuesday	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	The example of faith
Wednesday	Psalms 28	Prayer for help
Thursday	Proverbs 3:1-6	Trust God
Friday	Jeremiah 17:5-8	Trust the Lord
Saturday	Psalms 96	Sing a new song
Sunday	Matthew 22:34-46	Loving God and neighbor

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

For the people of those regions [Macedonia and Achaia] report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God. 1 Thessalonians 1:9 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of the nations, you alone are worthy of worship and praise; give us wisdom to see the false gods around us and remain true to you through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, you made the heavens and the earth to praise you. We praise you now for this food that strengthens the body and gladdens the heart. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with joy and the steadfast love of Jesus.



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

OCTOBER 22, 2023
HYMN OF THE WEEK
Lead Me, Guide Me

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:

- Doing the right thing is not always easy. What is something you have struggled with?
- A false god can be anything that we worship and trust to make us feel safe and secure. What false gods have you been tempted to worship in your life?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 22:15-22.

A surprising point of this story concerns trust in God, not false gods. Jesus had just successfully opposed religious leaders in the temple. Now those leaders go from debate to entrapment by getting Jesus to take a position that would place him against the Roman government (a deadly decision) or against the Hebrew Scriptures (an unfaithful position). Jesus navigates between these traps by tricking his opponents. He asks to see the coin used for the tax. It's a "gotcha" moment. The Jewish leaders should not have had the Roman coin in the temple. It has the face of the Roman Emperor on it and a confession that Emperor Augustus is the Son of God! With the coin they show Jesus the image and confession of an idol. Jesus says give back to Caesar the idolatry of the empire. Everything else is God's. These religious leaders had not considered that Jesus would outwit them, but he did. His words leave his opponents amazed and speechless. Idolatry to false gods can easily trip us all.

Discuss: What challenges you to be faithful to God above everything else?

Pray: Almighty God, give us wisdom to turn away from false gods in our life and courage to follow you and you alone through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you care for those who are struggling to trust God?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Paul wrote that the Christians in Thessalonica had become imitators of Jesus. Play a game of Simon Says. Then have a discussion about ways in which we imitate others in our lives—both in good and bad ways. Talk or think about what it means to be an example of Christian faith, hope, and love to others.

Pray: Lord Jesus, open our hearts to receive the gospel with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit so that we may become examples to all believers. Amen. (1Thessalonians 1:6-7)



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