



# 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.**  
**October 8, 2023**

## Nineteenth 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**

**“Father Welcomes”  
“Sing out, earth and skies”**

**BOB #52  
W&P #126**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**†WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS†**

**Welcome Song:**

**“Thy Word”**

**W&P #144**

*Chorus:* **Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
And a light unto my path.  
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
And a light unto my path.**

**1. When I feel afraid,  
And I think I've lost my way,  
Still You're there right beside me,  
Nothing will I fear  
As long as You are near.  
Please be near me to the end. *Chorus***

**2. I will not forget  
Your love for me, and yet  
My heart forever is wandering.  
Jesus, be my guide  
And hold me to Your side,  
I will love You to the end. *Chorus***

**\*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**

Beloved God,

**from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **‡GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO US‡**

### **First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>Let me sing for my beloved  
my love-song concerning his vineyard:  
My beloved had a vineyard  
on a very fertile hill.

<sup>2</sup>He dug it and cleared it of stones,  
and planted it with choice vines;  
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,  
and hewed out a wine vat in it;  
he expected it to yield grapes,  
but it yielded wild grapes.

<sup>3</sup>And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and people of Judah,  
judge between me  
and my vineyard.

<sup>4</sup>What more was there to do for my vineyard  
that I have not done in it?  
When I expected it to yield grapes,  
why did it yield wild grapes?

<sup>5</sup>And now I will tell you  
what I will do to my vineyard.  
I will remove its hedge,  
and it shall be devoured;  
I will break down its wall,  
and it shall be trampled down.

<sup>6</sup>I will make it a waste;  
it shall not be pruned or hoed,  
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;  
I will also command the clouds  
that they rain no rain upon it.  
<sup>7</sup>For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts  
is the house of Israel,  
and the people of Judah  
are his pleasant planting;  
he expected justice,  
but saw bloodshed;  
righteousness,  
but heard a cry!

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

### **Psalm 80:7-15**

<sup>7</sup>Restore us, O God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.  
<sup>8</sup>**You have brought a vine out of Egypt;  
you cast out the nations and planted it.**  
<sup>9</sup>You cleared the ground for it;  
it took root and filled the land.  
<sup>10</sup>**The mountains were covered by its shadow  
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.**  
<sup>11</sup>You stretched out its tendrils to the sea  
and its branches to the river.  
<sup>12</sup>**Why have you broken down its wall,  
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?**  
<sup>13</sup>The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it,  
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.  
<sup>14</sup>**Turn now, O God of hosts,  
look down from heaven;**  
<sup>15</sup>behold and tend this vine;  
preserve what your right hand has planted.

### **Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14**

<sup>4</sup>If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee;



<sup>41</sup>They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;  
this was the Lord's doing,  
and it is amazing in our eyes'?

<sup>43</sup>Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. <sup>44</sup>The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

<sup>45</sup>When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup>They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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

**Kid's Sermon:**

**PMA Bill Huelle**

**Sermon:**

**PMA Bill Huelle**

*(Silence for Reflection and Meditation.)*

**‡WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD‡**

**\*Song of the Day:**

**"Amazing Love"**

**W&P #8**

- 1. My Lord, what love is this that pays so dearly;  
That I, the guilty one, may go free?**

*Chorus:* **Amazing love, oh what sacrifice.  
The Son of God, giv'n for me;  
My debt he pays and my death he dies,  
that I might live, that I might live.**

- 2. And so they watched him die, despised, rejected;  
But oh the blood he shed, flowed for me. *Chorus***

**3. And now this love of Christ shall flow like rivers;  
Come, wash your guilt away, live again. *Chorus***

**\*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)*

**ELW #178**

**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.**

**“Spirit, Shine on Us”**

**Choir**



### **\*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.)*

1. Jesus loves me! this I know,  
for the Bible tells me so;  
little ones to him belong,  
they are weak, but he is strong.

*Refrain:* Yes, Jesus loves me,  
yes, Jesus loves me,  
yes, Jesus loves me,  
the Bible tells me so.

2. Jesus loves me! he who died  
heaven's gates to open wide;  
he will wash away my sin,  
let his little child come in. *Refrain*

3. Jesus loves me! he will stay  
close beside me all the way;  
when at last I come to die,  
he will take me home on high. *Refrain*

**\*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.**

**1. God be with you till we meet again;  
by good counsels guide, uphold you,  
with a shepherd's care enfold you;  
God be with you till we meet again.**

*Refrain:* **Till we meet, (till we meet,)  
till we meet, (till we meet again,)  
till we meet at Jesus' feet; (till we meet,)  
till we meet, (till we meet,)  
till we meet, (till we meet again.)  
God be with you till we meet again.**

**2. God be with you till we meet again;  
holy wings securely hide you,  
daily manna still provide you;  
God be with you till we meet again. *Refrain***

**3. God be with you till we meet again;  
when life's perils thick confound you,  
put unfailing arms around you;  
God be with you till we meet again. *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 safety: **Jeffery Christeleit** (deployed—Brian & Jodi Christeleit’s son and Jim & Sheila Miller’s grandson).



Kurt Nikont, 10/9; Willard Rusch, 10/9; Pastor Brett, 10/12; Madison Payne, 10/12; Kevin Miller, 10/13; Kathy Randall, 10/13; William Singer, 10/13; Elnora Sell, 10/14

*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.



### 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 (chili/cinnamon rolls) 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.



Please join the Elders and Council, in the Fellowship Hall on October 15th to say 'Thank You' to PMA Bill Huelle. Cake and coffee will be provided.

## **Pastor Spomer to Be Honored**

On October 23, Pastor Larry (and Linda) Spomer will be honored for the 60<sup>th</sup> 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

### This Sunday – October 8

**USHERS:** Kent & Dawn Holub  
**LAY READER:** Val Rahrs  
**HEAD COMMUNION ASST:** Vicki Howell  
**COMMUNION ASSTS:** Deb Brown & Marlene Downer  
**POWERPOINT:** Matt Payne  
**ACOLYTES:** Jack & Max Judy  
**MEDIA:** Maunette Loeks-Van Patten  
**AUDIO:** Jack Martin  
**ALTAR GUILD:** Andi Dorn, Shelly Koehler  
**PIANIST:** Tahnee Hutchinson  
**COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP:** *Please sign up!*

### Next Sunday – October 15

**USHERS:** Monty & Shari Copsey  
**LAY READER:** Angie Hinze  
**HEAD COMMUNION ASST:** Barb Jensen  
**COMMUNION ASSTS:** Rick & Lynn Margheim  
**POWERPOINT:** Mary Jo Huelle  
**ACOLYTES:** Kippen & Jacey Cochran  
**MEDIA:** Chris Jensen  
**AUDIO:** Jack Martin  
**ALTAR GUILD:** Abby Newsom, Maunette Loeks-Van Patten, Barb Jensen, Nannie Walsh  
**ORGANIST:** Tahnee Hutchinson  
**COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP:** *Please sign up!*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Sunday, October 8

10 a.m. – Worship  
11 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship  
2 p.m. – CROP Walk

### Monday, October 9

2 p.m. – Priscilla Circle @ Calvary's Fellowship Hall  
6 p.m. – Council  
7 p.m. – Hannah Circle @ Chris Thomas' home

### Tuesday, October 10

1 p.m. – Quilting

### Wednesday, October 11

12 p.m. – OWLs Lunch  
5:30 p.m. – JAM  
5:30 p.m. – Social Ministry  
6 p.m. Confirmation  
7 p.m. – Choir

### Saturday, October 14

9 a.m. – God's Work, Our Hands  
5:30 p.m. – Worship

### Sunday, October 15

10 a.m. – Worship  
11 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship  
11:30 – 2:30 p.m. – EPIC @ Lingle Corn Maze

OCTOBER 8, 2023  
NINETEENTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST



*God's love leads us to bear the fruits of the kingdom.*

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

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

Sunday	Matthew 21:33-46	Parable of the vineyard tenants
Monday	Isaiah 5:1-7	A song about a vineyard
Tuesday	Philippians 3:4b-14	To know Christ
Wednesday	Psalms 19	The wonders of God
Thursday	Haggai 2:10-19	A rebuke and a promise
Friday	John 15:1-17	Jesus the true vine
Saturday	Psalms 80:7-15	Prayer for Israel's deliverance
Sunday	Matthew 22:1-14	Parable of the wedding feast

**SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

*"Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom."*

Matthew 22:1-14 (NRSV)

**PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

**A Prayer for the Week:**

Almighty God, may your passion for justice and mercy lead us to display your compassion for others for the sake of your Son, our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, may the fruit of the earth that we enjoy in this meal give us strength to care for others through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**A Blessing to Give:**

May you know Christ's love and the power of his resurrection to love others. (Philippians 3:10)



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OCTOBER 8, 2023  
HYMN OF THE WEEK  
*Hymn of the Sparrow*



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 can correcting someone's mistakes in thoughts and actions be an act of love?
- What does it mean to you to live out the fruits of the kingdom?

**DEVOTIONS**



Read: Matthew 21:33-46.

Jesus continues his debate with religious leaders in the Jerusalem temple. He addresses chief priests, elders, Pharisees, Sadducees, and scribes. These leaders represent their commonality in the institutions of Judaism, a community of faith with very diverse views. Their commonality is that they all misrepresent the kingdom of God. Instead of "bearing the fruits of the kingdom," they display a power and influence that does not work for God. For Jesus the fruits of the kingdom are identified in his first public message, the Beatitudes in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-12). That message speaks of humility, meekness, a desire for God's righteousness, mercy, purity, peacemaking, and more. It's a message in opposition to the religious leaders of his day, that is, the wicked tenants of the parable that steal, cover, and murder to possess what is not theirs. The good news is that Jesus' parable names the coming of the son, the Son of God who bears the very fruits announced by Jesus.

Discuss: What would upset Jesus in today's religious life?  
Pray: God of power and might, cleanse us of all that does not bear the fruits of your kingdom that our lives may be a witness to 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 serve others with compassion for those in need?

**RIQUALS AND TRADITIONS**



In Psalm 80 (Isaiah 5, and Matthew 21), the image of a vineyard and vines are used to describe God's people planted by God to produce the fruit of faith and justice. Use a potted plant or draw a picture of a plant with vines. Make a sign to place in the plant or write on the paper: "God's vineyard is full of faith, justice, love, and mercy." Place the plant or drawing in a visible place and when you pass by it each time, give thanks to God for the fruits of the kingdom.



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)