



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 25, 2020

Reformation Sunday Affirmation of Baptism Service

Prayer Before Worship: I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me from all harm and danger; and I pray that you would keep me also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please you. For into your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

(adapted from Luther's Morning Prayer)

(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 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†

The Call to Worship

(adapted from Psalm 46)

"Be still and know that I am God".

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

"Be still and know that I am God."

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

"Be still and know that I am God."

Therefore we will not fear for the Lord of hosts is with us.

"Be still and know that I am God."

We will exalt God among the nations; we will exalt him in all the earth.

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

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

Marked with the cross of Christ in baptism, we come before God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, our Mighty Fortress to make confession of our sins and our sinfulness.

(silence for reflection and self-examination)

Most Gracious God,

We confess to you and to one another

that we have sinned both in our actions and in our failure to act.

For our failure to learn from the faithful examples within our own heritage and families, we ask you, Lord...

Forgive us and reform us.

For the fear of ridicule if we practice in our lives the beliefs we proclaim with our lips, we ask you, Lord...

Forgive us and reform us.

For our failure to study and use your Word daily in our lives and homes, we ask you, Lord...

Forgive us and reform us.

For not letting your Spirit guide and lead in everything we do, we ask you, Lord...

Free us from our sin. Give us pardon and peace.

Shape us with the cross to live reflecting your image.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved and this is not your own doing it is a gift from God. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **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**

Almighty God,

gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, 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: Jeremiah 31: 31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt — a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation**

Spoken

**Alleluia. If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples,
and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free. Alleluia.**

(John 8:31,32)

***Gospel: John 8:31-36**

Response after the announcement of the gospel:

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?" ³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

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

Sermon:

Pastor Chris

(Silence for Reflection and Meditation.)

‡WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD‡

***Song of the Day:**

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

ELW #504

vv. 1&2

**1. A mighty fortress is our God,
a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
and wins salvation glorious.**

**The old satanic foe
has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might
he arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.**

2. No strength of ours can match his might!

**We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
whom God himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is he!
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.**

‡Affirmation of Baptism‡

Dear friends, we give thanks to God for the gift of baptism and for these Confirmands, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism this day.

Leader: I present Ella Ryan Foote & Casey Theron Miller who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

P: Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for Ella & Theron whom you have made your own by water and the word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants as they affirm the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth through the sacrament of Holy Baptism. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

Renunciation of Evil

P: As you affirm your baptism, I ask you to reject sin, profess your faith in Christ, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response: **I renounce them.**

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response: **I renounce them.**

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: **I renounce them.**

Profession of Faith

P: Do you turn to Christ as your Lord and Savior?

Response: **In faith, I turn to Christ.**

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

P: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

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.

Commitment by Confirmands

P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Confirmands: **I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

Recitation of Confirmation Verses

P: People of God, do you promise to support Ella & Theron praying for them in their life in Christ?

C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Will the parents and guardians of our Confirmands, please come forward at this time.

Prayer of Blessing

P: Let us pray. We give thanks, O God that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, wash us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in Ella & Theron the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

C: Amen.

Parental Blessing

In Christian love you presented your children for Holy Baptism. In their baptisms, sacred promises were made. As parents of these young men and women, it was part of your calling to see that those sacred promises were kept: to faithfully bring them to the services of God's house, to teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed and the Ten Commandments. to place in their hands the Holy Scriptures and to provide for their instruction in the Christian faith." You have fulfilled those promises.

We now ask you to renew the covenants you made for the ongoing support of these young people's faith journeys. Do you intend to continue to worship, study and pray regularly with your youth?

If so, answer: ***"I do, and I ask God to help and guide me."***

Now parents and sponsors, I ask you to place your hand on your youth's head or shoulder and bless them: ***"May our blessing rest upon you as you enter a new stage in your walk of faith. God's blessing be upon you. May our Risen Lord sustain you, encourage you and guide you throughout your lives. May you always know the joy and strength that comes from being a child of God. Amen."***

Acclamation

P: Let us give thanks for these youth affirming their baptism as we carry out the life of this Christian community and its mission in the world.

C: As your sisters and brothers in the body of Christ, we rejoice with you as you affirm your baptism. Together let us give praise to God and bear God's creative and redeeming work to the entire world.

Confirmation Slide Show

***Prayers of the Church:**

ELW #752

(Sung Prayer Response)

**Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us pow'r,
send us grace.**

***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.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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

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

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.)*

“Step by Step”

Choir

Distribution Music

Praise Team

***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.**

***Sending Song: “Go, My Children, with My Blessing”**

**ELW #543
vv. 1&3**

1. **“Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love’s baptismal river
I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”**
3. **“Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit’s power filled you,
here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”**

*Dismissal

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

Thanks be to God.

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Music: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God: Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship* Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress. OneLicense.net #A-705226; **Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying:** CCLI Song # 22829 Ken Medema © 1973 Hope Publishing Company All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1825044; **Go, My Children, with My Blessing:** Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt. Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House OneLicense.net #A-705226

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



Sable Holub, 10/25; Diane Vandenberg, 10/27; Joan Smith, 10/31

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

✝ In Our Thoughts and Prayers ✝

Prayers for healing: **Frank Vetter** (Hospice—Mary Jo Huelle's cousin), **Shirley Loos** (Hospice—friend of Kathy Johnson & Jean Collins), **Tom Walsh** (Hospice—Nannie Walsh's father-in-law), **Bev Paul** (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 our church, community, nation and world: *in this time of Covid-19, fires, natural disasters and general unsettledness.*

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.

When a child is baptized, we, as the people of God, promise to support and pray for them in their new life in Christ. Your presence on this special day is one way you can fulfill the promise we as a church made to God. We rejoice that the following young people will be affirming the Baptismal promises made for them at their baptisms.

Ella Foote
(Ryan & Trisha Foote)

Theron Miller
(Travis & Andrea Miller)



Confirmation Verses

Ella Foote: Luke 1:45 *"Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"*

Theron Miller: Joshua 1:9 *"Be strong and courageous; do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."*



WOMEN OF THE ELCA OCTOBER MISSION PROJECT: CatPack and PupPack program

OCTOBER FOOD DONATIONS REQUESTED

FOOD PANTRY: canned veggies

BACKPACKS: oatmeal

Containers are located outside Fellowship Hall.

Thanks for your generosity.





JAM will be on Wednesdays!

Our Wednesday evening youth group is for kids in Kindergarten through 6th grade. Starting this Wednesday there will be NO meal and will meet from 6-7 p.m. for storytelling, music, crafts, games, and lots of fun. We will be practicing social distancing, and masks are now required since we are in the orange on the COVID-19 dial. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Angie, Pastor Chris, or Pastor Sheryl at the church.

Scholarship Renewal

Reminder for Scholarship renewal application forms must be into the church office by November 1st for second semester payment.

Pastors' Tuesday Evening Study

"Vindicating the Vixens" is the study book for this fall's Tuesday evening study. This book takes a deep look at several of the women in the Bible and challenges how we often interpret their stories. Interested in the study but would prefer to Zoom-in? Let us know and we'll send you the Zoom link. Plan now to join us!

Study ^{the} Bible
with us



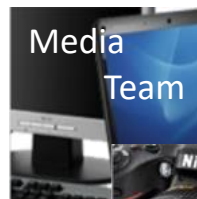
Audio Team

Are YOU using the gift's God gave you?

THESE TEAMS NEED YOU!

Our Livestream worship is up and running and we are so thankful to those who have made a commitment to our Media and Audio Teams who make the Livestream happen.

However, we are in need of a couple more people for both our Media Team and Audio Team (these are separate jobs). If interested in serving in this way, please talk to Pastors Sheryl or Chris or Dennis Gorr.





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!



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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 Pastors Chris or Sheryl or talk to your Thrivent agent.





Hymnal Available to Borrow

Do you miss being able to follow along with the music when we sing a hymn or song during worship? Hymnals are available to borrow for those who wish to. We only ask, per Governor Ricketts health directives if worshipping with us in person, that you bring it with you to worship and take it home with you after, rather than leaving it in the pew. Want to borrow a hymnal talk to Pastors Chris or Sheryl or one of the ushers.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastors Chris and Sheryl Kester Beyer

This Sunday – October 25

USHERS: Kent & Dawn Holub
LAY READER: Kathy Randall
COMMUNION ASST: Colter Burkey
POWERPOINT: Mary Jo Huelle
MEDIA: Maunette Loeks-Van Patten
ALTAR GUILD: Deb Brown, Vicki Howell, Tracy Steele
PIANIST: Dee Brady

Next Sunday – November 1

USHERS: Chris & Barb Jensen
LAY READER: Angie Hinze
COMMUNION ASST: Dennis Gorr
POWERPOINT: Andi Dorn
MEDIA: Colter Burkey
ALTAR GUILD: Andi Dorn, Carmen Kleager, Shelly Koehler, Jessica Laughlin
ORGANIST: Rhonda Boettcher
SONG LEADER: Val Rahrs

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, October 25
Reformation & Confirmation Sunday
10 a.m. – Worship
10:45-11:15 a.m. – Drive Through Communion

Tuesday, October 27
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

Wednesday, October 28
6 - 7 p.m. – JAM
7 p.m. – Choir Practice

Sunday, November 1
All Saints Sunday
10 a.m. – Worship
10:45-11:15 a.m. – Drive Through Communion
DAYLIGHT SAVING ENDS

OCTOBER 25, 2020
REFORMATION
SUNDAY



Disciples have a trusted relationship with Jesus.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Sunday | John 8:31-36 | The Son makes you free |
| Monday | Jeremiah 31:31-34 | The new covenant |
| Tuesday | Romans 3:19-28 | True righteousness |
| Wednesday | Deuteronomy 34:1-12 | Moses is buried in Moab |
| Thursday | Psalms 90:1-17 | God is eternal |
| Friday | Galatians 2:15-21 | Justified through faith |
| Saturday | Psalms 46 | God is our refuge |
| Sunday | Matthew 5:1-12 | The beatitudes |

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." **John 8:31-32 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Gracious God, keep your faithful people steadfast in your word so that we may receive your freedom and truth through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God of glory and might, with this gift of food we remember the gift of faith that strengthens us and renews us daily through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord bless you with a relationship to God through faith in Christ Jesus. (Romans 3:24)



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

OCTOBER 25, 2020
HYMN OF THE WEEK
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



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:

- Talk or think about what it takes to have a strong, ongoing relationship with a friend.
- What gets in the way of a friendship?
- Talk or think about what it takes to have a strong, ongoing relationship with Jesus.

DEVOTIONS



Read: John 8:31-36.

It is the power of the word that Jesus brings that gives us freedom from sin. That word is first and foremost Jesus, the Word that became flesh (John 1:14). Christian disciples "continue" or remain in the freeing and saving word of God. The Gospel of John emphasizes that the follower of Jesus has an ongoing relationship to him by continuing "in my word" (8:31). To know the truth that sets one free is more than to know information; it is to live in a relationship to Jesus through faith. The challenge at the time of the Reformation—and today as well—is for the church to promote a living relationship with God, a relationship that depends on faith in Jesus, the Son of God. We experience this relationship through worship, prayer, reading the Bible, and serving and loving one's neighbor for the sake of Christ. How do you continue to live each day as a disciple of Jesus?

Pray: Almighty God, help me to trust in Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord and have life in his name. Amen.

SERVICE



Martin Luther wrote, "God does not need your good works, but your neighbor does." An important theme of the Reformation is that all Christians are called to serve others through their baptisms. Think about friends and neighbors in your community who may need help or support in some way. What good works can you do to serve them in Jesus' name?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Martin Luther wrote the words for *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* and composed the melody. This well-known hymn is based on Psalm 46. After reading this psalm once, make a list of words from it that help you understand God as a mighty fortress. Read Psalm 46 again and pause for a moment when you read a word from your list. After finishing, say, "Amen."



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