

Calvary Lutheran Church

TOGETHER IN CHRIST
EMPOWERED TO BE AND MAKE DISCIPLES



In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. Just as our thirst for God exists, so must our thirst to care for God's, and our, creation.

The Third Weekend of Lent

Creation Care

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 2023—5:30 PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2023 — 8:00 AM, 10:15 AM

Prelude Chris Schneider 5:30 Naomi Baker 8:00 Praise Band 10:15

Welcome/Connection Cards

Call to Worship

How wonderful are the works of God!

We give thanks and praise for the beauty of creation.

God made all living things-- animals, plants, & humans--and calls us to care for and protect them all.

As people of faith, we strive to care for all of creation.

God equips and empowers us to live as good stewards.

Let us worship and praise God together!

Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness (based on Desmond Tutu's Prayer for Climate)

Creator God, **you have called us to be keepers of your earth.**

Through greed we have established an economy that destroys the web of life. We have changed our climate and we drown in despair.

Let oceans of justice flow. May we learn to sustain and renew the life of our Mother Earth.

May we act with compassion and courage; and lead us into the path of justice for the sake of our children and our children's children.

Amen.

Christ hears our confession

and forgives our sins against the Earth.

Let us remember this planet as God's sanctuary.

Shalom! Amen!

Gathering Song *Morning Has Broken* ELW 556

Prayer of Gratitude for the Beauty of Creation

God, our Creator of heaven and earth,

how blessed we are to be surrounded by the beauty of your creation.

We lift our prayer of gratitude as we see the stars of heaven, and the beauty of the sunset.

We are amazed by the seas and waterways and all that are in them.

We are enchanted by the flowers and trees which are clothed by you.

We are awed by all the animals you created.

For the beauty of the earth, the mountains and valleys, the sun and the moon – we give you praise.

Amen.

First Reading Exodus 17:1-7

The whole Israelite community left the desert of Sin, moving from one place to another at the command of the Lord. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water there to drink. ²They complained to Moses and said, "Give us water to drink."

Moses answered, "Why are you complaining? Why are you putting the Lord to the test?"

³ But the people were very thirsty and continued to complain to Moses. They said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt? To kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?"

⁴ Moses prayed earnestly to the Lord and said, "What can I do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me."

⁵ The Lord said to Moses, "Take some of the leaders of Israel with you, and go on ahead of the people. Take along the stick with which you struck the Nile. ⁶ I will stand before you on a rock at Mount Sinai. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink." Moses did so in the presence of the leaders of Israel.

⁷ The place was named Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites complained and put the Lord to the test when they asked, "Is the Lord with us or not?"

Word of God. Word of Life

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *Earth and All Stars* ELW 731 v.1

Gospel John 4:5-30, 39-42

⁵ In Samaria he came to a town named Sychar, which was not far from the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by the trip, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw some water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink of water." (⁸ His disciples had gone into town to buy food.)

⁹ The woman answered, "**You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan—so how can you ask me for a drink?**" (Jews will not use the same cups and bowls that Samaritans use.)

¹⁰ Jesus answered, "If you only knew what God gives and who it is that is asking you for a drink, you would ask him, and he would give you life-giving water."

¹¹ **"Sir," the woman said, "you don't have a bucket, and the well is deep. Where would you get that life-giving water? ¹² It was our ancestor Jacob who gave us this well; he and his children and his flocks all drank from it. You don't claim to be greater than Jacob, do you?"**

¹³ Jesus answered, "Those who drink this water will get thirsty again, ¹⁴ but those who drink the water that I will give them will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give them will become in them a spring which will provide them with life-giving water and give them eternal life."

15 "Sir," the woman said, "give me that water! Then I will never be thirsty again, nor will I have to come here to draw water."

16 "Go and call your husband," Jesus told her, "and come back."

17 "I don't have a husband," she answered.

Jesus replied, "You are right when you say you don't have a husband. **18** You have been married to five men, and the man you live with now is not really your husband. You have told me the truth."

19 "I see you are a prophet, sir," the woman said. 20 "My Samaritan ancestors worshiped God on this mountain, but you Jews say that Jerusalem is the place where we should worship God."

21 Jesus said to her, "Believe me, woman, the time will come when people will not worship the Father either on this mountain or in Jerusalem. **22** You Samaritans do not really know whom you worship; but we Jews know whom we worship, because it is from the Jews that salvation comes. **23** But the time is coming and is already here, when by the power of God's Spirit people will worship the Father as he really is, offering him the true worship that he wants. **24** God is Spirit, and only by the power of his Spirit can people worship him as he really is."

25 The woman said to him, **"I know that the Messiah will come, and when he comes, he will tell us everything."**

26 Jesus answered, "I am he, I who am talking with you."

27 At that moment Jesus' disciples returned, and they were greatly surprised to find him talking with a woman. But none of them said to her, "What do you want?" or asked him, "Why are you talking with her?"

28 Then the woman left her water jar, went back to the town, and said to the people there, **29 "Come and see the man who told me everything I have ever done. Could he be the Messiah?"** **30** So they left the town and went to Jesus.

39 Many of the Samaritans in that town believed in Jesus because the woman had said, **"He told me everything I have ever done."** **40** So when the Samaritans came to him, they begged him to stay with them, and Jesus stayed there two days.

41 Many more believed because of his message, **42** and they told the woman, "We believe now, not because of what you said, but because we ourselves have heard him, and we know that he really is the Savior of the world."
The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon "Life-Giving Water" Pastor David Severtson

Song of the Day *My Life Flows On in Endless Song* ELW 763

Children's Message (10:15)

Apostle's Creed

Prayers of the Church/Lord's Prayer

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Offering Response *For the Fruit of All Creation* ELW 679

Offering Prayer

Loving God, **you have blessed us with immeasurable gifts.
We humbly return to you fruits of your gifts,
not solely monetarily but through mindfulness of
the awakening to care for your creation.
Amen.**

Announcements

Sending Blessing

May the God of creation renew our spirits and cleanse our hearts.
May the God of creation renew our minds and transform our hearts.
May the God of creation renew our world.
Amen.

Sending Song *This is My Father's World* ELW 824

Dismissal

Go out with resolution to care for God's creation.
We will. Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Sundays and Seasons v.20230104.1415
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Prayer of Creation www.xavier.edu

Hospitalized This week: Rob Hjelle, Mike Gimpl

Find us on Facebook and YouTube

Radio: Sun 10:45 am on KWLM 1340 AM and 96.3 FM

TV: Sun 1:00 pm & 8:00 pm, Tues 9:30 am & 6:30 pm (WRAC Channel 181 on Spectrum)

Serving Today

Preaching:	Pastor David Severtson
Assisting:	Pastor Dean E. Johnson
Acolytes:	8:00 - Lola Nelson & Lauren Severtson 10:15 - Kiana Eichhorst & Maddie George
Greeters:	8:00 - Allan & Elaine Simon, Paul & Janelle Higdem 10:15 - Dennis & Sharon Eastman, Ken & Betty Meister
Lectors:	Saturday - Susan Roepke 8:00 - Kevin Christianson 10:15 - Andrew Berg
Office:	8:00 - Amy Gilbertson 10:15 - Cindy Moser
Sound:	8:00 - Victoria Larsen 10:15 - Shawn Swenson
Video:	Chris Bennett

Calvary Staff

Pastors: Dean E. Johnson and David Severtson
Director of Music Ministry: Naomi Powers-Baker
Children and Family Coordinator: Erica Mathews
Office Manager: Teri Sokulski
Custodian: Kim Schow & Ken Newberg
Head Usher: Randy Novak
Kitchen Coordinator: Enola Dowdell
Calvary Cemetery Sexton: Ron Keith

2023 Calvary Council Leaders

Shawn Swenson - Congregational President	Brian Henrickson
Mary Jo de Cathelineau - Vice President	Corey Nelson
Bridget Pederson - Secretary	Janel Skindellen
Shane Baker	Amber Willis
Caleb Hanson	

Living as Saints – Lent 2023

Lent is a time of renewal. Join us Wednesday evenings as we remember that we are baptized into Christ's death and resurrection and reborn saints, beloved children of God. We'll hear from various speakers about their lives as saints. Our weekly themes will be:

- Mar.15 – Striving for Justice
- Mar.22 – Faithful in Prayer
- Mar.29 – Dying and Rising with Christ.

A free-will offering meal of soup and sandwiches will be served at 5:15. Then, worship with Holden Evening Prayer will be held at 6:15.

2023 Lenten Offerings

February 22 - Ash Wednesday—Lutheran Social Service
March 1—Calvary Creation Care
March 8—Calvary Family Promise
March 15—Calvary Camp Scholarships
March 22—Lutheran Disaster Response for the Ukraine
March 29—Safe Avenues
April 6—Calvary Youth and Eagles Nest.

Lead Pastor

Calvary Lutheran Church, an ELCA congregation is seeking a Lead Administrative Pastor.

The Congregation has 2586 baptized members with 1992 confirmed members as of 12/31/22. Please share this information in order to reach out to possible candidates.

The church's Ministry Site Profile is available on the Southwestern Minnesota Synod website and the ELCA website.

Questions can be directed to Wayne Nelson, Chairperson of the Call Committee at 320-212-7987 or Bishop Dee Pederson at 507-637-3904.

Thank you

Faith Formation Coordinator - P/T

Calvary Lutheran is searching for a Faith Formation Coordinator to provide leadership for our Sixth Grade to young adult ministry. This work involves collaborating with the Pastor of Faith Formation, the faith formation committees, and others in the congregation to provide young people and their families opportunities for growth and connection within a safe and nurturing environment. This is a 20-25 hours per week position compensated on an hourly basis. Please contact Pastor David Severtson if you are interested: pastordavids@calvarywillmar.org, 920-264-4764. (posted 1/23/2023).

Office Assistant - P/T

Calvary Lutheran is looking for a part time paid office position. If interested Please contact Pastor Dean E. Johnson at pastordean@calvarywillmar.org or call 320-260-3642.

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt At Calvary

We need your help! Calvary has 5000 Easter eggs to fill with candy. We are getting together on Monday March 13th at 10:00 am in Bethany Hall. If you are interested in helping contact Erica Mathews at 320-444-0626 or erica@calvarywillmar.org

A Life Well Lived

Once again Calvary is offering a Lenten Women's Bible Study featuring A Life Well Lived by Charles Swindoll, Monday, March 13, 20, 27 and April 3 at 9:00am in the Friendship Room.

This will be a video presentation with discussion. The book is optional but can be ordered through Teri in the office.

For further information contact Marcia Knutson 320-295-3753 or Carolyn Gripentrog 320-235-3799.

Adult Forum

The Adult Forum on Sunday, March 12 will be a presentation by Karen Kraemer, a retired Willmar science teacher. Karen has been certified as a climate advocate by Blessed Tomorrow, an interfaith advocacy program. Also, Joel & Cathy Halbritter are making caramel & cinnamon rolls for the Creation Care Fundraiser for the communion cup racks.

First Communion

Congratulations to the 2nd grade class at Calvary who celebrated First Communion. We also want to thank the congregation for the really special notes and verses written for their prayer boxes. What a blessing to be able to read over and over and know that they are loved and valued by so many!

Deadline to sign up for March pictures is March 15th.

We have had a great response to March sign ups on Tuesday and Wednesday, but we really need more on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 23rd - 25th. Please call the church and ask for Naomi or Erica to schedule your appointment 320-235-2508 or make an appointment online go to www.ucdir.com, click on the Photography appt login, enter church code mn340 and the password is photos. Both are case sensitive.

Calling all Brass Players

We are looking for additional brass players for Easter. Please contact Naomi asap.

Ready Set Glow

Grades 2nd - 4th are invited to a glow party March 19th, 4:00pm - 6:00pm. Cost is \$5.00 per child and includes hot dogs, chips and water. Registration can be picked up in the office or contact Erica Mathews.

Easter Choir

We currently have 2 people in our Easter Choir. If you would like to join, please contact Naomi soon so she can choose music accordingly

Food Shelf Reminder

As an important part of Food Shelf Month, your monetary donations are used as follows: \$10 buys \$100 worth of food, \$20 buys \$200, etc.

We will chart the progress of our giving on the poster by the grocery cart. Your monetary donations can be brought to the office or put in the offering plate with Food Shelf noted on the envelope

Thank you Calvary!

Social Kindness Committee

Easter Floral Splendor

Our tradition of filling the sanctuary and other spaces around the building with beautiful Easter lilies and spring flowers continues. These are provided in honor and in memory of loved ones. You are invited to purchase a plant(s) for \$10.00 each.

Friday March 31st is the last day to order your flowers. Forms are available at the office, make checks payable to Calvary Lutheran Church.

Grief Care

Grief Care support group meets on Mondays at 5:15 pm in The Friendship Room. All are welcome.

Ready Set Glow

Grades 2nd - 4th are invited to a glow party March 19th, 4:00pm - 6:00pm. Cost is \$5.00 per child and includes hot dogs, chips and water. Registration can be picked up in the office or contact Erica Mathews.

**Pizza & Game Night
Grades 5th & 6th**

Join us for a night of Pizza and Games at Calvary on March 24th, 6pm - 8pm. Cost is \$5.00 per student. Registration forms can be pick up in the office or contact Erica Mathews.

Library News

Are you looking for a way to teach your child about Holy Week and Easter? What if your child could also receive, open, and read his or her own personal mail from God to make the lessons come alive? **Easter Love Letters from God** contains seven beautifully illustrated Bible stories, each accompanied by a special Bible verse and an encouraging letter tucked away in its own lift-the-flap envelope that can be personalized to your child.

Bell Choir

Bell Choir meets on Mondays, from 5-6pm. New members welcome. No experience necessary!

What's for dinner?

Calvary's cookbook has great recipes that will help you plan your next meal. Pick one up at the office for \$5.00.

Text Bible Study

Join us on Thursdays at 9:30 am in the Friendship Room. All are welcome

Gather Bible Study for Women

Third Wednesday each month, 10:00 am, in the Friendship Room.

2023 Financials February & YTD

	February Budget	February Actual	Over/(Under) Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Over/(Under) Budget
Income	\$ 67,779.17	\$ 84,877.51	\$ 17,098.34	\$ 135,558.30	\$ 148,174.05	\$ 12,615.75
Expenses	\$ 69,140.08	\$ 70,737.79	\$ 1,597.71	\$ 138,279.93	\$ 136,982.41	\$ (1,297.52)
	\$ (1,360.91)	\$ 14,139.72	\$ 15,500.63	\$ (2,721.63)	\$ 11,191.64	\$ 13,913.27

**Last Weekend's Worship Attendance - 362
YouTube - 149 households
Last weeks general offering - \$18,886.39**

Sunday, March 12

8:00am Worship Service
9:05am Creation Care forum/fundraiser
9:05am Sunday School
10:15am Worship Service
10:45am Worship Service on KWLM 1340 am or 96.3 fm
1:00pm Worship Service-WRAC 181
3:00pm Girl Scouts #3500
8:00pm Worship Service-WRAC 181

Monday, March 13

9:00am Bible Study – A Life Well Lived
10:00am Easter Egg Stuffing
12:00pm Finance Committee meeting
5:00pm Bell Choir
5:15pm Grief Care
6:30pm Cub Scouts
7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, March 14

5:15pm Stewardship Committee
6:00pm Church Council
6:30pm Worship Service - WRAC 181
7:00pm Zoom Pilates with Lori

Wednesday, March 15

10:00am Gather Bible Study
5:15pm Soup and Sandwich
6:15pm Lenten Worship Service

Thursday, March 16

9:30am Text Bible Study
1:00pm Quilters

Saturday, March 18

10:00am Praise Band
5:30pm Chapel Service

Sunday, March 19

8:00am Worship Service
9:05am Sunday School
10:15am Worship Service
10:45am Worship Service on KWLM 1340 am or 96.3 fm
1:00pm Worship Service-WRAC 181
4:00pm 2nd - 4th grade - Glow Party
6:30pm Youth Game Night
8:00pm Worship Service-WRAC 181

