

Calvary Lutheran Church

TOGETHER IN CHRIST
EMPOWERED TO BE AND MAKE DISCIPLES



Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2023 — 10:15 AM

Gathering Music Guide My Feet
 You are My All in All
 This is Amazing Grace

Welcome/Connection Cards

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.
And also with you.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
who journeys with us these forty days,
and sustains us with the gift of grace.

Amen.

Holy God,

**we confess to you our faults and failings.
Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;
we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;
we spoil rather than steward your creation;
we cause hurt though you call us to heal;
we choose fear over compassion.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
as we seek to follow in your way of life.
Amen.**

Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,
so that all may receive life.

This promise is for you!

God embraces you with divine mercy,
forgives you in Christ's name,
and revives you in the Spirit's power.

Amen.

Gathering Song *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* ELW 815

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together,

**Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By
your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our
hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the
Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd;
I have everything I need.

**² He lets me rest in fields of green grass
and leads me to quiet pools of fresh water.**

³ He gives me new strength.
He guides me in the right paths,
as he has promised.

**⁴ Even if I go through the deepest darkness,
I will not be afraid, Lord,
for you are with me.**

Your shepherd's rod and staff protect me.

⁵ You prepare a banquet for me,
where all my enemies can see me;
you welcome me as an honored guest
and fill my cup to the brim.

**⁶ I know that your goodness and love will be with me all my life;
and your house will be my home as long as I live.**

New Testament Reading Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸You yourselves used to be in the darkness, but since you have become the Lord's people, you are in the light. So you must live like people who belong to the light, ⁹for it is the light that brings a rich harvest of every kind of goodness, righteousness, and truth. ¹⁰Try to learn what pleases the Lord. ¹¹Have nothing to do with the worthless things that people do, things that belong to the darkness. Instead, bring them out to the light. (¹²It is really too shameful even to talk about the things they do in secret.) ¹³And when all things are brought out to the light, then their true nature is clearly revealed; ¹⁴for anything that is clearly revealed becomes light. That is why it is said,

“Wake up, sleeper,
and rise from death,
and Christ will shine on you.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Gospel Acclamation *Open Your Ears, O Faithful People* ELW 519 v.1

Gospel John 9:1-12

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man who had been born blind. ²His disciples asked him, “Teacher, whose sin caused him to be born blind? Was it his own or his parents' sin?”

³Jesus answered, “His blindness has nothing to do with his sins or his parents' sins. He is blind so that God's power might be seen at work in him. ⁴As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵While I am in the world, I am the light for the world.”

⁶ After he said this, Jesus spat on the ground and made some mud with the spittle; he rubbed the mud on the man's eyes ⁷ and told him, "Go and wash your face in the Pool of Siloam." (This name means "Sent.") So the man went, washed his face, and came back seeing.

⁸ His neighbors, then, and the people who had seen him begging before this, asked, "Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?"

⁹ Some said, "He is the one," but others said, "No he isn't; he just looks like him."

So the man himself said, "I am the man."

¹⁰ "How is it that you can now see?" they asked him.

¹¹ He answered, "The man called Jesus made some mud, rubbed it on my eyes, and told me to go to Siloam and wash my face. So I went, and as soon as I washed, I could see."

¹² "Where is he?" they asked.

"I don't know," he answered.

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon "Blind! but Now I See!" Pastor Dean E. Johnson

Song of the Day *Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)*

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Chorus

My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures (Chorus)

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

CCLI Song # 4768151

Apostle's Creed (page 105)

Prayers of the Church
(Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**)

Sharing of the Peace

Offering *Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord*

Offering Response *Change My Heart, O God* ELW 801

Offering Prayer

God of good gifts,
receive these and all our offerings
as we present them in faithful service
for the sake of your gospel.
Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal
as you pour out your very presence
through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.
Amen.

Words of Institution and The Lord's Prayer

Communion Music	<i>Bread of Life from Heaven</i>	ELW 474
	<i>Healer of Our Every Ill</i>	ELW 612
	<i>Take, O Take Me As I Am</i>	ELW 814

Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

Embodied God,
at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.
With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise,
empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors
and touch the world with your love.
Amen.

Blessing of Homebound Communion

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care:
As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set
forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound,
and imprisoned.
In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacra-
ment, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body
and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Announcements

Sending Blessing

God, the giver of love,
Christ, the resurrection and the life,
and the Holy Spirit of rebirth
bless you in this Lenten journey.
Amen.

Sending Song

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me *O Christ, Surround Me*



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to
2 Bind to my-self the name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness -
3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light - ning,
4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to
5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:
es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:
light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur - round me; O Christ, sur - round me.

Text: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, b. 1967
Music: GREEN TYLER, Richard Bruxvoort Colligan
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Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve in love.
Thanks be to God!

Departure

Today's bulletins are sponsored by Carol Toutge and family in loving memory of
Richard Toutge who passed away March 20, 1992.

Hospitalized This week: Rob Hjelle, Kyle Goosmann

Our prayers and sympathy to the family of Mike Gimpl

Serving Today

Preaching:	Pastor Dean E Johnson
Assisting:	Pastor David Severtson
Acolytes:	8:00 - Aubrey Adams & Bailey Nichols 10:15 - Ryan Wentzell & Max Garberding
Communion Assistants:	8:00 - Karen & Macy Loge 10:15 - Caleb Hanson, Brian Henrickson & Solenne Ruff
Greeters:	8:00 - Brett & Kathy Aamot, Allan & Elaine Simon 10:15 - Leon & Deb Lentz, Christa & Carolyn Gipentrog
Lectors:	Saturday - Lois Shaw 8:00 - Jill Tollefson 10:15 - Mary Jo de Cathelineau
Office:	8:00 - Debra Johnson 10:15 - Marcia Knutson
Sound:	8:00 - Dean Hasnon 10:15 - Mark Johnson
Video:	Jody Skindelien

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
Custodians: 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 Skindelien
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 - Briana Broberg
- Mar.22 – Faithful in Prayer - Joan Hanson
- Mar.29 – Dying and Rising with Christ. - Thomas Bonnema

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 office position. If interested Please contact Pastor Dean E. Johnson at pastordean@calvarywillmar.org or call 320-260-3642.

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.

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

Grief Care

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

Creation Care Tips

Buy House Plants - House plants not only add to the aesthetics of a home, but also maintain room temperatures by adding moisture to the air and reducing airborne bacteria, fungi and other unhealthy pollutants.

Adult Forum

Sunday March 19th, in the Friendship Room - Pastor Dean E. Johnson

Calling all Brass Players

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

Easter Choir

We currently have 4 people in our Easter Choir. If you would like to join, please contact Naomi soon so she can choose music accordingly. We will rehearse next Wednesday March 22nd following Lenten service.

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.

Bell Choir

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

NTY

Spring is just around the corner and so is NTY! After a winter break, we will get together again on April 14th. More details to come.

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.

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.

Library News

Stop by the library and check out this fiction book for adults: **The Girl Who Sang to the Buffalo** by Kent Nerburn. In this moving narrative, we travel through the lands of the Lakota and the Ojibwe, where we encounter a strange little girl with an unnerving connection to the past, a forgotten asylum that history has tried to hide. Part history, part mystery, part spiritual journey and teaching story, **The Girl Who Sang to the Buffalo** is filled with the profound insight into humanity and Native American culture we have come to expect from Nerburn's journeys.

Thank You

A big Thank You to all the people that helped stuff 5,660 Easter Eggs!!

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 - 185
YouTube - 166 households
Last weeks general offering - \$11,588.73

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

Monday, March 20

9:00am Bible Study - A Life Well Lived
5:00pm Bell Choir
5:15pm Grief Care
6:30pm Cub Scouts
7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, March 21

Directory pictures
6:30pm Creation Care
6:30pm Worship Service - WRAC 181
7:00pm Zoom Pilates with Lori

Wednesday, March 22

Directory pictures
5:15pm Soup and Sandwich
6:15pm Lenten Worship Service

Thursday, March 23

Directory pictures
9:30am Text Bible Study
1:00pm Quilters
6:00pm Girl Scouts - Troop 3655
6:30pm Girl Scouts #3656

Friday, March 24

Directory pictures

Saturday, March 25

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

Sunday, March 26

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
2:00pm Eagle Court of Honor
6:00pm 5th & 6th Grade - Pizza & Games
8:00pm Worship Service-WRAC 181

