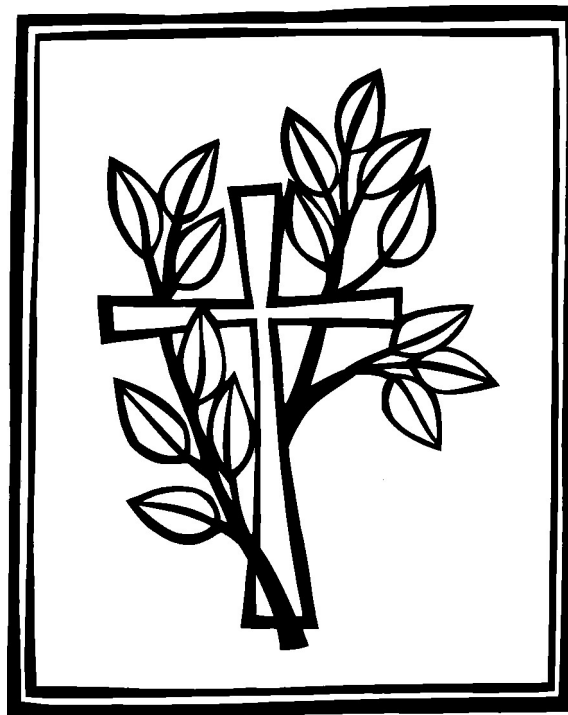


# *Calvary Lutheran Church*

TOGETHER IN CHRIST  
EMPOWERED TO BE AND MAKE DISCIPLES



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*The Fourteenth Weekend after Pentecost*

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2023      5:30 PM**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2023      9:00 AM**

Prelude Naomi Baker

Ringling of the Bell (9:00)

Gathering Song *Will You Come and Follow Me* ELW 798

Welcome

Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness

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

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.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together,  
**O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for  
the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of  
obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus  
Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Song of Preparation     *Sanctuary*

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true;  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for You. (repeat)

Psalm 26: 1-8 (NRSV)

1 Vindicate me, O Lord,  
for I have walked in my integrity,  
and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.

**2 Prove me, O Lord, and try me;  
test my heart and mind.**

3 For your steadfast love is before my eyes,  
and I walk in faithfulness to you.

**4 I do not sit with the worthless,  
nor do I consort with hypocrites;**

5 I hate the company of evildoers,  
and will not sit with the wicked.

**6 I wash my hands in innocence,  
and go around your altar, O Lord,**

7 singing aloud a song of thanksgiving,  
and telling all your wondrous deeds.

**8 O Lord, I love the house in which you dwell,  
and the place where your glory abides.**

Here ends the reading of the Psalm.

New Testament Reading     Romans 12: 9-21 (NRSV)

9 Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; 10 love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. 11 Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. 12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. 16 Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. 17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. 18 If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. 19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' 20 No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation     *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*     ELW 172

Gospel     Matthew 16: 21-28 (NRSV)

21 From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. 22 And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' 23 But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

24 Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 25 For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. 26 For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

27 'For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. 28 Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon     *"A ROCK....OR A STUMBLING BLOCK?"* Pastor Wayne Kopitzke

Song of the Day     *Lift High the Cross*     ELW 660

Apostles' Creed     (page 105)

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

Sharing of Peace

Offering Music

Offering Response     *We Are an Offering*     ELW 692

Offering 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.**

Words of Institution and The Lord's Prayer

Communion Music      *Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song*      ELW 808  
                                 *All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly*      ELW 461  
                                 *In the Singing*      ELW 466

Post Communion Blessing and 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.**

Announcements

Sending Blessing

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      *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*      ELW 545

Dismissal

Go in peace. God is at work in you!  
**Thanks be to God!**

Postlude      Sundays and Seasons v.20230418.1214 Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

**Hospitalized This Week:** Julie Olson

Weekly Attendance - 206  
YouTube - 91  
General Offering - \$6,440.95

2023 Financials July & YTD						
	July Budget	July Actual	Over/(Under) Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Over/(Under) Budget
Income	\$ 67,779.17	\$ 61,724.91	\$ (6,054.26)	\$ 474,454.15	\$ 461,843.95	\$ (12,610.20)
Expenses	\$ 69,140.08	\$ 59,319.07	\$ (9,821.01)	\$ 483,980.33	\$ 444,984.59	\$ (38,995.74)
	\$ (1,360.91)	\$ 2,405.84	\$ 3,766.75	\$ (9,526.18)	\$ 16,859.36	\$ 26,385.54

### **Serving Today**

**Preaching:** Pastor Wayne Kopitzke  
**Assisting:** Pastor Dean E. Johnson  
**Acolytes:** Anthony Thompson, Ryan Wentzel  
**Communion Assistants:** Ryan Newberg, Ace Bonnema  
**Greeters:** Dave & Marie Fett  
Duaine & Ann Amundson  
**Lectors:** Saturday - Marilyn Gjerde  
Sunday - Brad Rice  
**Office:** Susan Roepke  
**Sound:** Victoria Larsen  
**Video:** Jody Skindelien

### **Calvary Staff**

**Pastor:** Dean E. Johnson  
**Director of Music Ministry:** Naomi Powers-Baker  
**Faith Formation Coordinator - Children:** Erica Mathews  
**Faith Formation Coordinator - Youth:** Victoria Larsen  
**Office Manager:** Teri Sokulski  
**Office Assistant:** Marie Fett  
**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 Skindelien
Shane Baker	Amber Willis
Caleb Hanson	

### **OFFICE CLOSED SEPTEMBER 4**

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 4 in observance of Labor Day.

### **TEXT STUDY**

Thursday September 7th at 9:30 text study will resume.

### **RALLY SUNDAY**

Sunday, September 17 will be Rally Day. Join us at 8:00 AM indoor service or 9:15 AM for outdoor service and stay for bounce houses, yard games, and FUN!

### **BELL CHOIR**

Bell Choir will begin Monday, Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> 5-6pm

### **GRIEF CARE**

We will resume the Grief Care Group on Monday, September 11, 2023 at 5:15 to 6:30 pm in the Friendship Room. Pastor Dean will lead the discussion. Members - Guests - Relatives - Neighbors are all welcome! Bring a friend.

### **GREEN LAKE LUTHERAN MINISTRIES**

Sept 7-21 GLLM is looking for volunteers to help remodel the cabins. Start time each day is 9am. See you at the Cabins!

**GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**

Following 9:00 Service  
Opportunities for ALL!

- Clean our Sanctuary
- Assemble LSS Kids Kits
- Assemble Goodie Boxes for Recent Graduates
- Make Greeting Cards
- Community Cleanup at Robbins Island
- Install Fence at Pollinator Plot

**CALVARY YOUTH  
WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Sunday, September 10th is God's Work Our Hands at Calvary. We are going to Robbins Island to collect trash from 10:15am to 11:15am. Please meet in the parking lot across from the park. Parents: You are welcome to stay and help or come back to pick up youth. Thank you everyone!

**NTY - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**

On Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, we will have our very own Calvary Member, Beth Novak, daughter of Randy & Clarice Novak, speak about her life and work experiences as an assistant lab officer on Jodies Resolution science ship. Please welcome Beth back to Calvary. Call the church office by 4:30 P.M. Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> to register, all are welcome. Cost will be \$7.00, payable the day of NTY. Please pay when you arrive and not at the church office. (Note that cancellations after Wednesday and no-shows, will still require payment due to increased food costs.) Thank you.

**COULD YOU HELP WATER FLOWERS**

Please help keep our outside flowers beautiful. Additional volunteers are needed through September. Please call the office to sign up for a specific week. Thank you!

**PARENTS OF SPRING 2023  
GRADUATES**

As part of God's work. Our hands., the Social Kindness Committee will be mailing goodie boxes to Calvary members' children and/or grandchildren who graduated from high school Spring of 2023. In order to do this, we need addresses for these young people whether they are at college or in the work force. Addresses may be sent to Naomi Baker at [nbaker@calvarywillmar.org](mailto:nbaker@calvarywillmar.org) or dropped off at the office. Stay tuned, we'll be asking for home baked cookies by Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>! Thanks! Naomi

**SUMMER LIBRARY HOURS**

1st & 3rd Sunday of each month, open before and after the 9:00 am service.

**DO YOU LIKE READING?**

Do you enjoy reading? Are you looking for a new volunteer opportunity? The Calvary library is in need of volunteers for Sunday mornings during the Sunday School hour. There will be an informational meeting and training on Wednesday, Sept. 13 at 5:15 and another option on Sunday, Sept. 24 during the Sunday School hour. If you are unable to attend one of these meetings but are still interested in volunteering, please contact the church office.

**PERSONAL CARE ITEMS NEEDED**

We have learned that there is a need for personal items for homeless young adults/teenagers who are being helped by Lutheran Social Services here in our area. Needed items are: hairbrushes, hair clip/ties, shampoo (regular or small size), deodorant, shaving cream, toothpaste (regular or small), toothbrushes, nail clippers, medicated chapstick, sunscreen, bug spray, backpacks, diapers size 5 or 6 and pullups, and baby wipes. Look for the poster and the bin. We will collect these items through September. Thank you Calvary! Social Kindness Committee

### BEFRIENDER AT CALVARY

#### Who it is for?

BeFriender is for anyone desiring a caring, confidential, and faith-based presence in their life. If you are experiencing loss, illness, or a major life transition, BeFriender may be for you!

#### BeFriender Leaders at Calvary:

Beth Bloomquist 320-905-8678  
mbbloomquist@charter.net  
Nancy Holt - nholt0414@gmail

### KEEP RECYCLING PLASTICS

We have earned our 4<sup>th</sup> composite bench from plastic recycling! Since November 2021, Calvary has kept 3355 pounds of plastic out of our landfills! Keep up the good stewardship!

### MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

- **Singing for Fun** - Once a month, dates/times to be determined by those Interested - Morning? Afternoon? Evening?
- **Praise Band** - We lead 10:15 Worship. We typically rehearse Saturdays 10-11am (but we can be flexible)
- **Ukulele or Guitar Anyone?** If you are interested in learning or refining these skills, let's get together!
- **Special Music** - Saturday evening and/or Sunday morning

If you are interested in any of these character building opportunities, contact Naomi Baker nbaker@calvarywillmar.org

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### Sunday, September 3

9:00am Worship Service  
10:45am Worship Service on KWLM 1340 am or 96.3 fm  
1:00pm Worship Service-WRAC 181  
8:00pm Worship Service-WRAC 181

### Tuesday, September 5

1:00pm Social Kindness Committee  
6:30pm Charity Circle  
6:30pm Worship Service - WRAC 181  
7:00pm Native American History  
7:00pm Zoom Pilates with Lori

### Wednesday, September 6

1:30pm Deaconess Meeting  
5:45pm 10th Grade – Confirmation

### Thursday, September 7

9:30am Text Bible Study - Pastor Wayne  
1:00pm Quilters  
4:00pm Endowment Committee - Friendship Room

### Friday, September 8

12:00pm NTY - Beth Novak

### Saturday, September 9

5:30pm Chapel Service

### Sunday, September 10

9:00am Baptism - Macy McCann  
9:00am Worship Service  
10:00am God's Work - Our Hands  
10:45am Worship Service on KWLM 1340 am or 96.3 fm  
1:00pm Worship Service-WRAC 181  
3:00pm Girl Scout Troup 3500 Friendship Room  
8:00pm Worship Service-WRAC 181