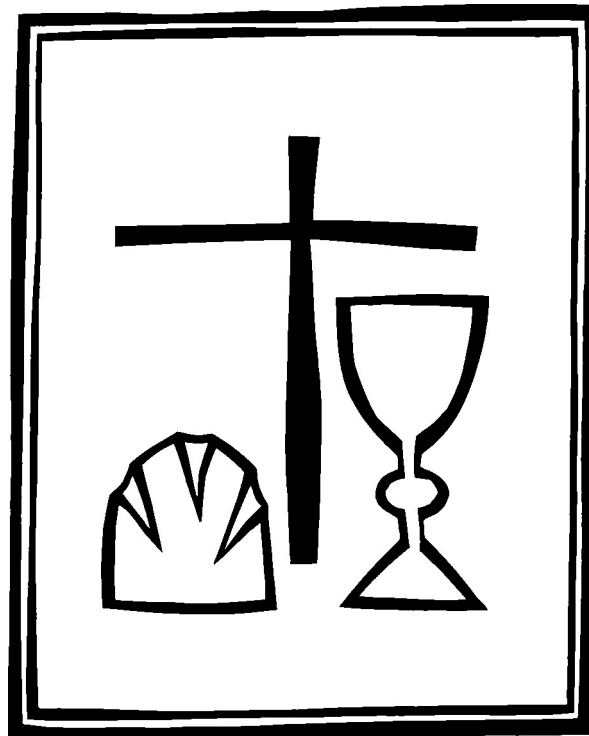


Calvary Lutheran Church

TOGETHER IN CHRIST
EMPOWERED TO BE AND MAKE DISCIPLES



The Sixteenth Weekend after Pentecost

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2023

5:30 PM

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

8:00 AM

Prelude Naomi Baker

Ringling of the Bell (8:00)

Gathering Song *Let the Whole Creation Cry* ELW 876

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 Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

Song of Preparation *Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil* ELW 721

Psalm 103: 1-13 (NRSV)

- 1 Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name.
- 2 **Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits—**
- 3 who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
- 4 **who redeems your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**
- 5 who satisfies you with good as long as you live
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- 6 **The Lord works vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**
- 7 He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.
- 8 **The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**
- 9 He will not always accuse,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
- 10 **He does not deal with us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our iniquities.**
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
- 12 **as far as the east is from the west,
so far he removes our transgressions from us.**
- 13 As a father has compassion for his children,
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.

Here ends the reading of the Psalm.

New Testament Reading Romans 14:1-12 (NRSV)

- 1 Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. 2 Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables.
- 3 Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. 4 Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.
- 5 Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. 6 Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

7 For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 8 If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.

11 For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

12 So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah* ELW 172

Gospel Matthew 18: 21-35

21 Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" 22 Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, 25 and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' 29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35 So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon "A Difficult Task" Pastor Dean E. Johnson

Song of the Day *Where Charity and Love Prevail* ELW 359

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	<i>One Bread, One Body</i>	ELW 496
	<i>What a Friend We Have in Jesus</i>	ELW 742
	<i>United at the Table</i>	ELW 498
	<i>Day by Day</i>	ELW 790

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.

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 sacrament, 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
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 *O Jesus, Joy of Loving of Loving Hearts* ELW 658

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

Preaching:	<u>Serving Today</u> Pastor Dean E. Johnson
Assisting:	Pastor Wayne Kopitzke
Acolytes:	Logan Madsen, Hudson Sjoberg
Communion Assistants:	8:00 - Kevin & Sandy Hanson
Greeters:	8:00 - Roger & Barb Baker, Craig & Sue Roepke 9:15 - Larry & Marcia Knutson, Jeff & Jane Miller
Lectors:	Saturday - 5:30 - Lee Paulson Sunday - 8:00 - Jim Swenson
Office:	7:45 - 9:30 - Sally Olson 9:30 - 11:15 - Marcia Knutson
Sound:	Mark Johnson
Video:	Jody Skindeliën

The bulletin is sponsored in honor of the 46th Wedding Anniversary of Craig and Susan Roepke.

Calvary Staff
Pastor: Dean E. Johnson
Director of Music Ministry: Naomi Powers-Baker
Faith Formation Coordinator - Children: Erica Mathews
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 (leave of absence) Janel Skindeliën
Shane Baker - Acting Secretary Amber Van Eps
Caleb Hanson

RALLY SUNDAY

Today is Rally Sunday. 8:00 AM indoor service or 9:15 AM for outdoor service and stay for bounce houses, yard games, and FUN!

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who took part in God's Work. Our Hands! Outreach is an important part of the church. All efforts are appreciated. If you have feedback and/or ideas for next fall, I would love to learn of them! Blessings to all, Naomi Baker.

BELL CHOIR

Bell Choir meets Mondays 5-6 pm.

GRIEF CARE

Grief Care Group meets on Mondays from 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.

LIBRARY HOURS

Starting Sunday, September 24, the library will be open every Sunday between the 8:00 and 10:15 services.

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 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.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Saturday 5:30 pm Chapel Service
Sunday 8:00 am worship - (Calvary)
Sunday School 9:05
Sunday 10:15 am Worship
Sunday 11:00 am worship (Svea)

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. The bin is located in the narthex. We will collect these items through September. Thank you Calvary! Social Kindness Committee

TRUNK OR TREAT

Calvary's Annual Trunk or Treat is fast approaching on October 28 from (1-4 PM). Here are some ways we would like help:

- Donating candy to the Church Office
- Monetary donations to buy candy
- Decorating a trunk and handing out candy

Are you a youth who wants to decorate a door and hand out candy? Contact Erica Mathews.

HELP LEIAH ARENDS BUILD HER BOOK LIBRARY

Do you have gently used children's books laying around you would love to donate? Leah would love to have you donate them to her "book library" for Trunk & Treat. Books can be dropped off with Erica Mathews.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1ST

There will be a box in the narthex for you to drop off used oral products. Oral B and Crest will recycle these products and keep them out of the landfill.

TEXT/BIBLE STUDY

Text/Bible Study is held on Thursdays at 9:30 in the Friendship Room. Please join us. All are welcome!

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

FREE RECTANGLE TABLES FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Calvary has 10 long rectangle tables to give away. These tables are available first come first serve on September 29th between the hours of 10am - 2pm. Please stop by the office to let us know you have come to pick up tables. Thank you!

CALLING ALL PARISH SINGERS! HYMN FEST PICK-UP CHOIR

Saint John's Abbey, Collegeville, MN Sunday, September 24

- o 3:20 be in lower church reading to sing and rehearse.
- o 5:00 pm Hymn Fest in the abbey church.
- o 6:00 pm – **Free meal** for all singers.
- For all Catholic and Protestant choir members in central Minnesota.
- Celebrating the new Saint John's Abbey Hymnal with 964 hymns.
- On the recently expanded Holtkamp-Pasi pipe organ, the largest on any Catholic college campus in the U.S.

- With guest organist Bill Chouinard of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Mahtomedi, MN.
- With Chamber Choir, Women's Chorus, Men's Chorus, and All-College Choir of the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University; and the Chapel Choir of the School of Theology and Seminary.
- You will receive music ahead of time.

Please learn your parts on **your** own before the event – on the day of the event we'll have just enough time to put it all together for what you're already learned.

- It is not a lot of choir music for you to learn. We have many choirs, and each choir will just lead one or two hymns, and all the choirs together will lead two hymns.
 - You will receive links to hear all the hymns, and your vocal part, ahead of time.
 - You will receive clear directions to campus, and where to go in the lower church, ahead of time.
- [Sign up online](#) by Monday, September 18 to reserve your meal and get all information

Weekly Attendance - 216

YouTube - 108

General Offering - \$8,054.34

2023 Financials August & YTD						
	August Budget	August Actual	Over/(Under) Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Over/(Under) Budget
Income	\$ 67,779.17	\$ 52,421.35	\$ (15,357.82)	\$ 542,233.32	\$ 514,265.30	\$ (27,968.02)
Expenses	\$ 69,140.08	\$ 51,079.13	\$ (18,060.95)	\$ 553,120.41	\$ 496,063.72	\$ (57,056.69)
	\$ (1,360.91)	\$ 1,342.22	\$ 2,703.13	\$ (10,887.09)	\$ 18,201.58	\$ 29,088.67

A special congregational meeting of Calvary Lutheran Church members will be held on Sunday October 1, 2023, at 11:15 AM in Bethany Hall.

Shawn Swenson, Congregational President

Southwestern Minnesota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Sunday, September 17

8:00am Worship Service
9:15am Rally Sunday - Outdoor Worship
10:45am Worship Service on KWLM 1340 am or 96.3 fm
1:00pm Worship Service-WRAC 181
8:00pm Worship Service-WRAC 181

Monday, September 18

5:00pm Bell Choir
5:15pm Grief Care - Friendship Room
6:00pm Cardettes Boosters - Bethany Hall
6:30pm Cub Scouts - Pavillon
7:00pm Boy Scouts - Bethany Hall

Tuesday, September 19

6:30pm Worship Service - WRAC 181
7:00pm Zoom Pilates with Lori

Wednesday, September 20

10:00am Gather Bible Study
5:45pm 10th Grade - Confirmation
6:30pm 6th - 9th Grades

Thursday, September 21

9:30am Text Bible Study -Pastor Wayne - Friendship Room
1:00pm Quilters
6:00pm Girl Scouts Troup #3655 - Rooms 206 & 208

Friday, September 22

5:00pm Wedding Rehearsal - Ashburn/Grussing

Saturday, September 23

10:00am Praise Band
11:00am Baptism - Jared Pawelk - Chapel
4:00pm Emily Ashburn/Shane Grussing Wedding
5:30pm Chapel Service

Sunday, September 24

8:00am Worship Service
9:05am Sunday School
10:15am Baptism - Landry Louise Hanson
10:15am 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

