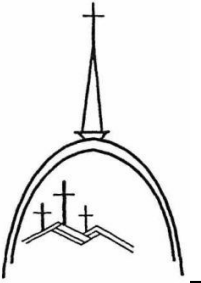


# Calvary Lutheran Church

TOGETHER IN CHRIST  
EMPOWERED TO BE AND MAKE DISCIPLES



Good Shepherd Sunday is grounded by Psalm 23, one of scripture's great gifts to us, a companion through every stage of life. As the psalm is read, guide the assembly in closing their eyes and imagining the many landscapes described in this poem: green pastures, still waters, the darkest valley, a long table set with food, the house of the Lord. Invite worshipers to find these landscapes in your neighborhood and to send pictures, drawings, or descriptions of these sacred landscapes that can inspire and enrich the liturgical art you use for the remainder of this Easter season.

*Good Shepherd Weekend & Earth Weekend*

*Saturday, April 20, 2024 5:30 pm*

*Sunday, April 21, 2024 8:00 am*

## Prelude

## Ringing of the Bell

## Welcome

## 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.**

## Litany/Call to Worship

We enter the song of Creation!

**Earth cradles our ancestors, birthing new life.**

We enter the prayer of Creation!

**Sky brings darkness and light, holds storms and the stars.**

We enter the praise of Creation!

**Mountains peaked with snow, hills swaying with grasses.**

We enter the silence of Creation!

**Humanity between the ground and the heavens.**

We come here, humbly, as one earthly family to worship our Creator: the giver of form, the maker of space. **Amen.**

## Gathering Song “Let the Whole Creation Cry” ELW 876

## Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who calls forth Creation, evokes praise from Creation, and stirs life in Creation. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God, Creation, and one another.

God of righteousness and justice,

**you have made the Earth and all that is in it, but we have failed to honor your good work. We do not recognize your presence among us, and our hardened hearts do not hear Creation’s cry. We have made your good land a desolation, and we dishonor your image in our neighbors. Forgive us, in your steadfast love, O God, for trampling your vineyards and polluting your sky. On your holy mountain, call us again to be stewards of your Earth and to join all Creation in songs of praise. Amen.**

## Sunday, April 21th

8:00am & 10:15am Worship Pastor Wayne Kopitzke– Preaching

Pastor Dwaine Sutherland Presiding

9:05am Sunday School/Coffee Hour

10:45am Worship Service on KWLM 1340 am or 96.3 fm

1:00pm Worship Service-WRAC 181

4:00pm Girl Scout Troop #3515– Rooms 109/111

8:00pm Worship Service-WRAC 181

## Monday, April 22nd

6:30 pm Cub Scouts- Koinonia Room

7:00 pm Scouts - Bethany Hall

## Tuesday, April 23rd

6:30pm Worship Service - WRAC 181

7:00pm Zoom Pilates with Lori

## Wednesday, April 24th

6:30pm 6th-9th Grade Confirmation

## Thursday, April 25th

9:30am Text Bible Study - Friendship Room - Pastor Wayne Kopitzke

5:45pm Girl Scout Troop #3655– Room 206/208

6:00pm Girl Scouts Troop #3749– Room 109/111

## Friday, April 26th

10:00am Visitation for De Ella Aamot

11:00am Funeral for De Ella Aamot

## Saturday, April 27th

10:00am Praise Band

10:00am Stingray Golden Goggles Banquet

5:30pm Chapel Service - Pastor Dwaine Sutherland

## Sunday, April 28th

8:00am & 10:15am Worship Service– Pastor Dwaine Sutherland -preaching  
Pastor Wayne Kopitzke - presiding

9:05am Sunday School

10:45am Worship Service on KWLM 1340 am or 96.3 fm

1:00pm Worship Service-WRAC 181

4:00pm Girl Scouts Troop #3515 room 109/111

8:00pm Worship Service-WRAC 181



# Thank You

## TO ALL OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS:

AMANDA NEWBERG, JENA BERGET, KAYLEE JAHRAUS, KAYLA BAKER, STACEY HILLERUD, MADELYNN BROCKMAN, MAKAYLA JOHNSON, JEN HALVORSON, KARI STEINBEISSER, MEGHAN KNOTT, DANIELLE LARSON AND MANDI SCHMIDT.

## TO ALL OF THE HELPERS:

Brooklyn Mathews, Brooke Madsen, Ben Rosendahl, Abbi Scott, McKenna Mathews, Hailey Arends, Paityn Wolf, Lola Nelson, Emily Johnson and Leah Arends.

## TO ALL OF THE CONFIRMATION LEADERS:

Victoria Larsen, Dave Fett, Connie Dickerson, Janel Skindelien, Doug Johnson, Joel Hallbritter, Heather Bonnema, Matt Thompson, and Jane Miller.



### Calvary Staff

**Senior Pastor:** Dwaine Sutherland  
**Interim Pastor:** Wayne D. Kopitzke  
**Director of Music Ministry:** Naomi Powers-Baker  
**Faith Formation Coordinator - Children & Youth:** Erica Mathews  
**Office Manager:**  
**Office Assistant:** Marie Fett  
**Custodians:** Kim Schow & Ken Newberg  
**Head Usher:** Randy Novak  
**Kitchen Coordinator:** Enola Dowdell  
**Calvary Cemetery Sexton:** Ron Keith

Last weeks Attendance - 237

YouTube - 131

General Offerings—\$7,983.09

Rejoice, for the Incarnate Word has come to you. Laying aside all heavenly glory, the servant of all is obedient unto death to make of you and all the Earth a new Creation. Rejoice, for Christ, from whom nothing can separate you, + forgives you all your sins. Rejoice, for the One whose name is majestic in all the Earth raises you up to newness of life. **Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Together we pray,  
**Shepherd of all creation, accept our thanks for leading us, your often lost sheep, day after day. Help us to discern paths of destruction from those that lead us to flourishing and abundant life. Help us to tread lightly in this world, to revel in the beauty and complexity of nature, and to join in the song of all Creation. All this we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

### **Responsive Canticle** “Shepherd Me, O God” ELW 780

Congregational Response: **Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.**

### **Scripture Readings**

#### **Genesis 1:9-12, 29-31**

<sup>9</sup> And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. <sup>10</sup> God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. <sup>11</sup> Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. <sup>12</sup> The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it.

<sup>29</sup> God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. <sup>30</sup> And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. <sup>31</sup> God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 23

1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

**2 He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters;**

3 he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths  
for his name's sake.

**4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil,**

**for you are with me;**

**your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.**

5 You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.

**6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,**

**and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord  
my whole life long.**

Here ends the reading of the Psalm.

## 1 John 3:16-24

16 We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers and sisters. 17 How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

18 Little children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.

19 And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him 20 whenever our hearts condemn us, for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. 21 Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God, 22 and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

23 And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. 24 All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Serving Today

**Preaching:** Pastor Wayne Kopitzke

**Presiding:** Pastor Dwaine Sutherland

**Acolytes:** **8:00** - Crosby Pederson & Hayley Chouanard  
**10:15**— Aubrey Adams & Myah Thorson

**Communion Assistants:** **8:00**— Kevin Hanson & Pam DeKraai  
**10:15**— Krista Willis & Karina Rice

**Greeters:** **8:00** - Cindy & Mike Moser, Roger & Barb Baker  
**10:15**— Dave & Marie Fett, John & Dawn Kappers

**Lectors:** **Saturday 5:30** – Cindy Dean  
**Sunday - 8:00** - Wayne Nelson **10:15**— Holly Ulrich

**Office:** **7:45 - 9:30**— Sally Olson **9:30 - 11:15** - Susan Martin

**Sound:** **8:00** - Doug Sawatzky  
**10:15**— Kim Larson

**Video:** **8:00 & 10:15**- David Sehloff

### **Healthy Earth Healthy Kids**

Visit the Vinje, Calvary, Bethel Creation Care booth to enter a drawing for: a framed wildlife photo by our own Kelly Welch or wildlife artwork by Bethel's Don Houseman! April 27th, 2024 10am-2pm at the Willmar Civic Center.

### **Singing For Fun Announcement**

Singing for fun will not meet the rest of the Spring and Summer. See you in the Fall!

### **West Central Singers Thank You!**

Thank you to Calvary for hosting our concert Sunday, April 14th. We Will be back in the fall!

### **Food for Our City Needs your Help**

Food for the city needs cash donations to buy non-perishable items. They are only accepting money donations at this time.

### **Calvary Cemetery News**

Road Construction on Gorton Ave NW in front of the Calvary Cemetery Starts April 22, 2024 . It will be hard to enter the cemetery April 22rd-June2024

### **Preschool VBS!**

Join Calvary, Vinje, and Bethel Churches as we gather together **at Vinje Lutheran Church**, 1101 Willmar Ave. SW, for Pre-school Vacation Bible School! VBS will run Monday, July 15 - Thursday, July 18th from 8:30am-11am. The cost is free for members. The morning will include crafts, games, and Bible studies encompassing the GLLM summer theme, Created to Be. This program is for preschool aged children, including those going into kindergarten. *All attending need to be toilet trained.* Interested? Follow the link on FB or contact Erica Mathews.

### **Talent Show**

May 5th at 9:00am in Bethany Hall come Support the youth at Calvary! Want to sign up talk to Erica! Coffee will be down in Bethany hall this day. **Coffee will be downstairs that day!**

## Announcements

### Sending Blessing

Go and act, for the care of creation. Go and learn, for the sake of creation. Go and pray, for the love of creation. And may the care of God enfold you, the passion of the Risen Christ embolden you, and the wisdom of the Holy Spirit empower you, now and forever, **Amen.**

**Sending Song** “This is My Father’s World” ELW 824

### Dismissal

Go in peace. Care for Creation.  
**Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**



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**Hospitalized this Week:** Ione Andreen, Marlene Schuler, Mavis Larson, Ronald Gehrke

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**Prayers and Sympathies:** DeElla Aamot; Mother of Brett (Kathy) Aamot

While it's easy to sentimentalize the beloved shepherding images of today's readings, they emerge from an economic reality. For ancient Israelites, sheep were their life force: they provided wool, milk, meat, and currency. Sheep symbolized every divine blessing and demonstrated the interconnectedness of all creation. Still today, we humans, as part of creation depend on other animals and the land for our livelihood just as we depend on the other members of our "flock"—our human siblings—to guide us and care for us. On this day before Earth Day, this image of the sheep and shepherd challenges our modern individualism and inspires recognition of ecological interconnectedness—of humanity together with the animals, the land, each other, and God.

**Gospel Acclamation** “Alleluia” (p.151)

**Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

**The Gospel Reading** John 10:11-18

The Gospel reading is found in the Gospel of John.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

11 “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. 13 The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, 15 just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. 17 For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon** “The GOOD Shepherd” Pastor Wayne Kopitzke

**Song of the Day** “The King of Love My Shepherd Is” ELW 502 (vs. 1-3,6)

**Apostles’ Creed** (page 105)

**Prayers of the Church** (Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**)

**Sharing of the Peace**

**Offering Music**

**Offering Response** “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful” ELW 184

### Offertory Prayer

Together we pray,

**Loving Creator, you brought us forth from the very Earth itself.**

**Bless these offerings, and compel us to use them not only to serve our human neighbors, but also to serve our sister sky, our brother mountain, our mother Earth, and all our family in Creation. We pray this in the name of the Word that dwells among us. Amen**

### The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

### Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy One, you indeed are creator and sustainer of all that lives and breathes. You plant trees and lift up mountains. You provide water and fill oceans. The foundations of our planet rest firmly in your hands.

We thank you for placing all things into our care. We thank you for the awesome responsibility of tending the garden of Earth. We thank you for trusting our ability to steward this Creation, even as you know our very failings.

Chiefly, we are bound to thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ, who in the night in which he was betrayed, took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

### The Lord's Prayer (p. 112)

### Communion Music "Surely Goodness and Mercy"

A pilgrim was I, and a-wand'ring-in the cold night of sin I did roam  
When Jesus, the kind Shepherd found me and now I am on my way home.

Chorus

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me; All the days all the days of my life  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me; All the days all the days of my life

He restoreth my soul when I'm weary. He giveth me strength day by day  
He leads me beside the still waters. He guards me each step of the way  
(chorus)

When I walk thro' the dark lonesome valley, my Savior will walk with me there  
And safely His great hand will lead me to the mansions He's gone to prepare  
(chorus)

And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever,  
And I will feast at the table spread for me.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
All the days, all the days of my life.  
All the days, all the days of my life.

"Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us" ELW 789

"For the Beauty of the Earth" ELW 879

### Post Communion Prayer

Creator God, we give thanks for this meal of the body and blood of Jesus. Send us from this feast to love the Earth, the sky, the mountains, and all humanity. Give us strength to repair the damage we have caused and courage to advocate for all of God's Creation. 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.**

### Creation Care Temple Talk