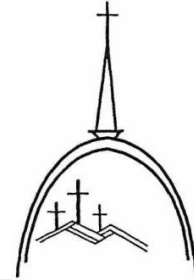
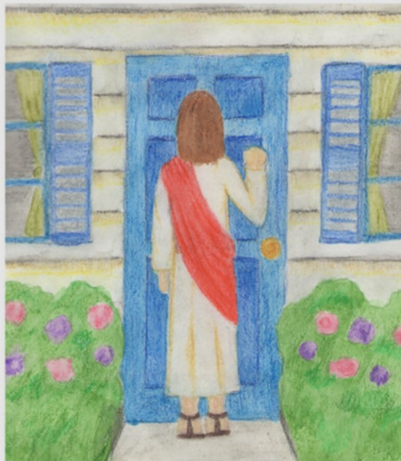


Calvary Lutheran Church

TOGETHER IN CHRIST
EMPOWERED TO BE AND MAKE DISCIPLES



You have a friend request.



Jesus Christ (Son of God)

Wants to be your friend.

Have you answered?

The Sixth Weekend of Easter

Sunday, May 5, 2024 10:15am

The theme of love continues from last week into this week's lectionary texts. In today's gospel, Jesus speaks about the love found in friendship. Jesus' disciples—and we, by extension—are called friends of Jesus. But friendship with our Savior requires something of us—that we follow his command to love one another. If we are friends of Jesus, how ought we live and act in light of this command? How have you experienced Jesus as a friend in your life?

Prelude Calvary Bell Choir

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.

Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness

Almighty God, **you love us, but we do not love you as fully as we should. You call, but we do not always listen. We often walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We often condone evil, hatred, warfare, and greed. God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as you move toward us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

Friends hear this, the One who was rejected by family, friend, and neighbor, is the One who expresses love for sinners like us. He is patient, kind, and humble. He bears all things, hopes all things, endures all things. For us, he endured the extent of shame and scorn upon the cross so that we may be unfettered and freed to live and love. In Him, we are forgiven. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Together we pray,
**Thank you, heavenly Father, for showing us your love in your Son Jesus, and for making us his friends.
Help us to love you and obey your commands, and to love one another. Teach us to accept and serve others as you have accepted and served us. Amen.**

Gathering Song "Goodness Is Stronger than Evil" ELW 721

Scripture Readings

Acts 10:44-48

⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵ The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the gentiles, ⁴⁶ for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷ “Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” ⁴⁸ So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 98

¹ O sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and his holy arm
have gotten him victory.

**² The Lord has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.**

³ He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.

**⁴ Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

⁵ Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.

**⁶ With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.**

⁷ Let the sea roar and all that fills it,
the world and those who live in it.

**⁸ Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy**

⁹ at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming
to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

Here ends the reading of the Psalm.

1 John 5:1-6

¹ Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³ For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴ for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵ Who is it who conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶ This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Message "The Runaway Bunny" Pastor Wayne Kopitzke

Gospel Acclamation "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird, and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.

The Gospel Reading **John 15:9-17**

The Gospel reading is found in the Gospel of John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁹ As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

¹² "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the

master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷ I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon “What Love Looks Like” Pastor Wayne Kopitzke

Song of the Day “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” ELW 742

Apostles’ Creed (page 105)

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

Sharing of the Peace

Offering Music “Jesu, Jesu” Calvary Bell Choir

Offering Response “Freely, Freely”

Offertory Prayer

Together we pray,

We give thanks for the remarkable gifts of your creating and redeeming love, O God. Accept our gifts as a token of our love toward you. 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.

The Words of Institution and The Lord’s Prayer (p. 112)

Communion Music “Breathe on Me, Breath of God” Bell Choir

“Eat This Bread” ELW 472

“Jesus Loves Me” ELW 595

“Healer of Our Every Ill” ELW 612

Communion Blessings

For those who do not receive communion, we give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For those that receive communion, Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever. **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father,
Grant that we who have received his body and blood
may live in him and serve you as your children.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Announcements

Sending Blessing

May the God of peace, who raised from the dead our Lord Jesus,
provide you with every good thing you need in order to do his will. **Amen.**

Sending Song "I Love to Tell the Story ELW 661

Dismissal

Go in peace. You have been chosen by God!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude Calvary Bell Choir

Confession/forgiveness-<https://thepastorsworkshop.com/>; www.lca.org.au/worship
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Weekly Attendance - 230
YouTube - 115 households
General Offering - \$8,125.80

Serving Today

Preaching: Pastor Wayne D. Kopitzke
Presiding: Pastor Dwaine Sutherland

Communion Assistants: **8:00** - Corey & Elissa Nelson
10:15 - Sandy Hanson, Cathy Halbritter

Greeters: **8:00** - Duaine & Ann Amundson, Betty Larson
10:15 - Leon & Deb Lentz, Darrell & Peggy Ruch

Lectors: **Saturday 5:30** - Lois Shaw
Sunday 8:00 - Dione Warne
10:15 - Mary Jo deCathelineau

Office: **7:45 - 9:30** - Nancy Fritz
9:30 - 11:15 - Cindy Moser

Sound: **8:00** - Doug Sawatzky
10:15 - Mark Johnson

Video: **8:00 & 10:15** - Jody Skindelien

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK: Dean Ellingson

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: Paula Lueders
Office Assistant: Marie Fett
Custodians: Kim Schow & Ken Newberg
Head Usher: Randy Novak
Kitchen Coordinator: Enola Dowdell
Calvary Cemetery Sexton: Ron Keith

2024 Calvary Council Leaders

Mary Jo DeCathelineau - Congregational President
Brian Henrickson - Vice President
Bridget Pederson - Secretary
Harley Aalfs
Shane Baker
John Dean
Bob Dickerson
Caleb Hanson
Lori Holmgren

Social Kindness Committee

Social Kindness committee will meet on Tuesday, May 7 at 1:00 pm in the Friendship Room.

Gather Bible Study

Gather Bible Study will meet on Wednesday, May 15 at 10:00 am in the Friendship Room.

Preschool VBS!

Join Calvary, Vinje, and Bethel Churches as we gather together **at Vinje Lutheran Church**, 1101 Willmar Ave. SW, for Preschool 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.

Library News

The church library will be closed beginning May 12 through the summer. Please continue to return any previously checked out books through the library door slot. Thank you.

Calvary Creation Care Team

Calvary Creation Care Team **THANKS** all who kept used dental products out of the landfill by bringing them to Calvary. The products are on their way to be recycled. Next collection dates for June 22-23!

Call Committee Update

The Call Committee continues its work on filling the Associate Pastor position. We currently have no candidates under consideration but have heard we may be receiving a candidate's RMP shortly. Your prayers and thoughts are appreciated. Thank you.

Home Communion Volunteers Needed

We are in **urgent** need of Home Communion volunteers. Would you please consider helping us with this wonderful service that Calvary has for our home-bound members. Please call the church office at 235-2508 if you can help. Thank you!

NTY - Friday, May 10 at 12:00 noon

How much do you know about the Willmar Lutheran Campus Ministry?? Come and find out more about the Campus Ministry from our speaker, Rev. Amy Juel, at our next NTY meeting on May 10th. She has over 25 years of experience in ministry and has served in a variety of lay and paid staff ministries. She is a 2012 graduate of Luther Seminary and was ordained at Vinje Lutheran in May of that year. She has served in the Area Churches Together (ACT) Parish, at Vinje Lutheran, and is at Maynard Lutheran where she has been for almost 8 years. Pastor Amy has served as Chaplain for Willmar Lutheran Campus Ministry since 2013. She has four adult children and currently lives in Maynard with one of her daughters and their menagerie of animals. (Interesting fact: Pastor Amy is the niece of DeElla Aamot).






Please call the church office by 4:30 P.M. Wednesday, May 8 to register. Invite someone new to NTY or bring a guest! Cost for the catered lunch is \$7.00, payable the day of NTY. Please pay when you arrive and not at the church office. (Note that cancellations after Wed. and no-shows will still require payment due to increased food costs.) If you can't come for lunch, you are still welcome to come for the program at 1:00 P.M. Thank you. If any questions, please call Diane Asche at 320-295-8938.



from Down the Hall -May 2024 Naomi Baker

While rehearsing with the Praise Band last Saturday, a phrase from a song reached out and grabbed me. I have sung this song before but for some reason this time the phrase, “give us the courage to enter the song” kept replaying in my mind. As a music person, I like to think I’m pretty “in touch” with song lyrics. (Well, most of the time anyway) But like others, I find my mind wandering and I am oblivious as to what I’m singing about.

Paraphrasing “Gather Us In” (ELW 532), we are to:

-  *awaken and arise at the sound of our name*
-  *be light to the whole human race.*
-  *be salt of the earth*
-  *fashion holy lives and truthful hearts*
-  *do ALL these things NOW. Now, in THIS kingdom.*
Now, in THIS day, not light years away.

I see this as a gentle reminder for us to act out our Christian beliefs; to “enter the song” and practice what we preach/sing.

Until next time.....Make a Noise!



**“There’s song in you and it wants to live outside of you.
The world and you both win when you express it.”
John Jacobson**



- Anxiety Disorders
- ADHD
- Bipolar Disorder
- Borderline Personality Disorder
- Depression +
- Dissociative Disorders
- Eating Disorders
- Obsessive-compulsive Disorder
- Posttraumatic Stress Disorder
- Psychosis
- Schizoaffective Disorder
- Schizophrenia

A mental illness is a condition that affects a person's thinking, feeling, behavior or mood. These conditions deeply impact day-to-day living and may also affect the ability to relate to others. If you have — or think you might have — a mental illness, the first thing you must know is that **you are not alone**. Mental health conditions are far more common than you think, mainly because people don't like to, or are scared to, talk about them. However:

- **1 in 5** U.S. adults experience mental illness each year
- **1 in 20** U.S. adults experience serious mental illness each year
- **1 in 6** U.S. youth aged 6-17 experience a mental health disorder each year
- **50%** of all lifetime mental illness begins by age 14, and 75% by age 24

A mental health condition isn't the result of one event. Research suggests multiple, linking causes. Genetics, environment and lifestyle influence whether someone develops a mental health condition. A stressful job or home life makes some people more susceptible, as do traumatic life events. Biochemical processes and circuits and basic brain structure may play a role, too.

None of this means that you're broken or that you, or your family, did something "wrong." Mental illness is no one's fault. And for many people, recovery — including meaningful roles in social life, school and work — is possible, especially when you start treatment early and play a strong role in your own recovery process.

Pictured below is the certificate we received for our part in the recent "Healthy Earth, Healthy Kids" community event.



Preschool VBS

PRE-K: Join Calvary, Vinje, and Bethel Churches as we gather together at Vinje Lutheran Church, 1101 Willmar Ave. SW, for Preschool 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. To register contact Erica Mathews. 320-444-0626 or erica@calvarywillmar.org

Psalm 23:5a "Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies"

A few years ago, at another congregation, the church council and I decided to have Holy Communion every Sunday. Its theology grounded and it is a reminder that it is a gift from God. We don't come to church to perform a service for God but it how God serves us in the gift of grace, forgiveness, and life given through salvation. In the previous congregation, a member told me how he was grateful that we had Holy Communion every Sunday. He continued with that he worked every other Sunday and couldn't make it to church on the Sundays we had Holy Communion and he rarely received Holy Communion. Now he receives Holy Communion whenever he is in church. The Church Council agrees with having Holy Communion every Sunday as Brother Martin Luther tells us to commune every time we gather in worship. Psalm 23 reminds us that God prepares a table before us in the presence of our enemy. The altar is the table that we are feed the body and blood of Christ, and we should come to taste the good food of the salvation and the forgiveness of sins.

A few months ago, I attended Calvary's Altar Guild meeting and the subject of how we can move to having Holy Communion every Sunday was asked. One of my concerns was if it would be too taxing on our volunteers. The Altar Guild came up with a plan for the Sundays that we traditionally did not have Holy Communion would be that we would have Holy Communion served by intinction. Holy Communion by intinction takes much less preparation time. I didn't want to change our long-standing tradition of Holy Communion by homemade bread and cups as we have several people who love to make bread. So, the plan we came up with is, the 1st and 3rd Sundays we will have Holy Communion with homemade bread and cups, with the 1st Sunday kneeling at the rail. On the 2nd and 4th Sunday and any 5th Sunday we will have Holy Communion by intinction.

I am thankful for so many who have worked with us on planning Holy Communion for every Sunday. A big thank you to everyone for being patient during this time of change.
Pastor Dwaine

*****If you or a loved one would like a pastoral visit (ill, hospitalized, or just because), please contact Senior Pastor Dwaine Sutherland at (651) 500-7657 - dsutherland@calvarywillmar.org or Interim Pastor Wayne Kopitzke at (320) 841-1951 - revwayne100@gmail.com. Pastor Dwaine and Pastor Wayne are always willing to provide support in time of need.*****

Sunday, May 5 - Full Communion - Kneeling

- 8:00am Worship Service - Pastor Wayne D. Kopitzke - Preaching
Pastor Dwaine Sutherland - Presiding
- 9:00am Talent Show - Bethany Hall - **COFFEE SERVED IN BETHANY HALL**
- 10:15am Worship Service
- 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

Monday, May 6

- 6:30pm Cub Scouts- Koinonia Room
- 7:00pm Scouts - Bethany Hall

Tuesday, May 7

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

Wednesday, May 8

Thursday, May 9

- 9:30am Text Bible Study - Friendship Room - Pastor Dwaine Sutherland
- 12:00pm Executive Committee Board Meeting - Zoom
- 1:00pm Quilters
- 5:45pm Girl Scout Troop #3655 - Room 206/208
- 6:00pm Girl Scouts Troop #3749 – Room 109/111

Friday, May 10

- 12:00pm NTY – Bethany Hall

Saturday, May 11

- 5:30pm Chapel Service - Pastor Dwaine Sutherland

Sunday, May 12 - Communion by Intinction

- 8:00am Worship Service - Pastor Dwaine Sutherland - Preaching
Pastor Wayne D. Kopitzke - Presiding
- 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