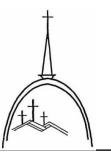
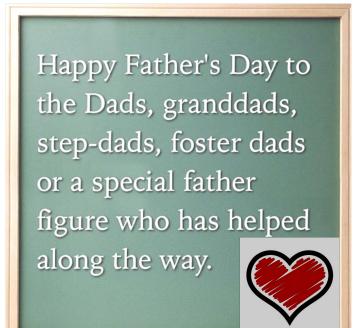
Calvary Lutheran Church

TOGETHER IN CHRIST EMPOWERED TO BE AND MAKE DISCIPLES





The Fourth Weekend of Pentecost Father's Day Weekend Saturday, June 15, 2024 5:30 pm Sunday, June 16, 2024 9:00 am The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

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.**

Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of

the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Together we pray,

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Gathering Song "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" ELW 807

Scripture Readings Ezekiel 17:22-24

22 Thus says the Lord God: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender shoot from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will transplant it on a high and lofty mountain. 23 On the mountain height of Israel I will transplant it, and it will produce boughs and bear fruit and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. 24 All the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord. I bring low the high tree; I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the Lord have spoken; I will accomplish it.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

¹ It is good to give thanks to the LORD,

to sing praises to your name, O Most High,

² to declare your steadfast love in the morning

and your faithfulness by night,

³ to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.

⁴ For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

¹² The righteous flourish like the palm tree

and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

¹³ They are planted in the house of the LORD; they flourish in the courts of our God.

¹⁴ In old age they still produce fruit;

they are always green and full of sap,

¹⁵ showing that the LORD is upright;

he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

Here ends the reading of the Psalm.

2 Corinthians 5:6-17

6 So we are always confident, even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— 7 for we walk by faith, not by sight. 8 Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. 9 So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to be pleasing to him. 10 For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive due recompense for actions done in the body, whether good or evil. 11 Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade people, but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. 12 We are not commending ourselves to you again but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. 13 For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.

¹⁴ For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵ And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves but for the one who for their sake died and was raised. ¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we no longer know him in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being!

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah" ELW 172

The Gospel Reading Mark 4:26-34

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

26 He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground 27 and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. 28 The earth produces of itself first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. 29 But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle because the harvest has come." 30 He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? 31 It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, 32 yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." 33 With many such parables he spoke the word to them as they were able to hear it; 34 he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon "Our Greatest Gift and Responsibility" Pastor Wayne D. Kopitzke

Song of the Day "For the Fruit of All Creation" ELW 679

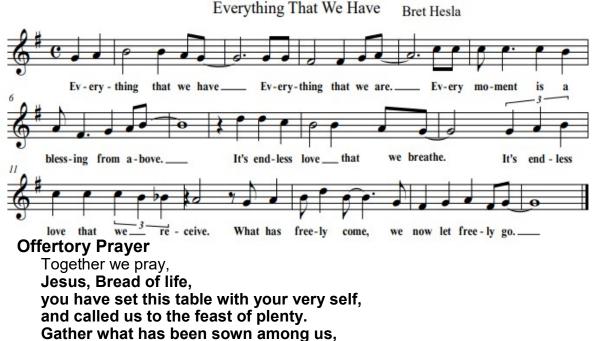
Apostles' Creed (page 105)

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

Sharing of the Peace

Offering Music

Offering Response



and strengthen us in this meal.

Make us to be what we receive here,

your body for the life of the world. 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	"Great is Thy Faithfulness"	ELW 733
	"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"	ELW 742

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

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your 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

Blessing for Fathers and Father Figures

God of all creation, pour out your blessing on all those who provide fatherly care. You have made them in your image and given them children to love and care for in your name. Bless them with a heart like your heart: loving and kind, comforting and strong, nurturing and grace-filled. As they participate in your ongoing creativity, give them discernment to help children discover their unique gifts.

As they teach, grant them wisdom to know what is truly valuable. As they strive to share your unconditional love, give them long-suffering patience and a lively sense of humor. As they model your mercy, help them extend the forgiveness they themselves freely receive from you. In all circumstances fortify their faith, that they may love you above all. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Sending Blessing

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" ELW 547

Dismissal

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. Thanks be to God!

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Flowers are from the Memorial Service of LeAnne Freeman.

Youth Trip to Duluth

Last weekend we commissioned and blessed those going on the mission trip. Please continue to pray for: Paityn Wolf, Aubrey Adams, Jayda Darger, Myah Thorson, Hailey Arends, Abagal Scott, Crosby Pederson, Levi Lindblad, and leaders Kelly O'Farrell, Gretchen Lindblad and Stacey Hillerud.

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK: Millie Buer, Lynette Emberland

Weekly Attendance - 181 YouTube - 77 households General Offering - \$10,367.34

Preaching: Presiding:	<u>Serving Today</u> Pastor Wayne D. Kopitzke Pastor Dwaine Sutherland				
Communion Assistants:	Mandi Schmidt, Heather Bonnema				
Greeters:	Corey & Elissa Nelson, Wayne & Linda Nelson				
Lectors:	Saturday - Susan Roepke Sunday - Holly Ulrich				
Office:	Linda Broberg				
Sound:	Mark Bloomquist				
Video:	David Sehloff				

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 - grant01@tds.netBrian Henrickson - Vice President - brian.henrickson60@gmail.comBridget Pederson - Secretary - bridgetpederson@yahoo.comHarley AalfsShane BakerJohn DeanLori Holmgren

2024 Financials May & YTD								
	May Actual	May Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Over/(Under) Budget		
Income	\$ 37,093.84	\$ 67,387.50	\$ (30,293.66)	\$ 300,631.97	\$ 336,937.50	\$ (36,305.53)		
Expenses	\$ 51,353.52	\$ 67,352.21	\$ (15,998.69)	\$ 320,708.40	\$ 336,761.51	\$ (16,053.11)		
Net Income	\$ (14,259.68)	\$ 35.29	\$ (14,294.97)	\$ (20,076.43)	\$ 175.99	\$ (20,252.42)		



Don't forget to breathe!

Throughout my many years of directing choirs, I would tell my choir students that I loved them more than other teachers. They would look at me perplexed. I would then continue, "What other teacher tells you how, when and where to breathe?!"

Of course, proper use of breath is important to singing. Attentiveness to our breathing is also valuable to our physical and mental well-being as stress and anxiety creep into our lives. If you've dealt with anxiety, you most likely know the power of slow, deep, focused breathing.

Why am I writing about this? Recently, we celebrated Pentecost and the image of breathing in the Holy Spirit continues in my mind. So, I guess I'd like to remind you to breath and feel the "Power of the Holy Spirit" within you.

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

"There's a song in you and it wants to live outside of you. The world and you both win when you express it." John Jacobson

Be The Good: New To You Thrift Store has a program called Be The Good. Bring your items in to donate and let them know that you would like the credit to go to Calvary Lutheran Church. Each quarter, they add up all the credits and they send us a \$20.00 gift card which we then can give to people in need. The gift cards can be used to purchase items from their Thrift Store. They have donated over \$91,000 in gift cards to date.





<u>GREAT NEWS</u> - The

chair lift going up to the Choir Room is once again in operation for those in need of it.

Thank you Paula!!



Dear Friends in Christ,

On this Father's Day weekend, consider the following from Mary Fairchild, a minister, writer and editor. She writes:

Most fathers don't realize the extent of their influence and how their godly behavior can make a lasting impression on their children. In this poem, a child focuses on her father's strong hands to illustrate his character and express how much he has meant to her life.

Dad's Hands

Dad's hands were king-size and strong. With his hands, he built our home and fixed all the broken things. Dad's hands gave generously, served humbly, and loved mom tenderly, unselfishly, completely, unendingly. With his hand, Dad held me when I was small, steadied me when I stumbled, and guided me in the right direction, When I needed help, I could always count on Dad's hands. Sometimes Dad's hands corrected me, disciplined me, shielded me, rescued me. Dad's hands protected me. Dad's hand held mine when he walked me down the aisle. His hand gave me to my forever love, who, not surprisingly, is very much like Dad. Dad's hands were the instruments of his great big, rugged-tender heart. Dad's hands were strength. Dad's hands were love. With his hands he praised God. And he prayed to the Father with those big hands. Dad's hands. They were like Jesus' hands to me.

For many, Father's Day can be a time of mixed feeling. Some are fathers, some are not. Some have memories of loving fathers, some do not. For some, our fathers are still living; for others, they are not. Many have men in their lives who have been father -figures – mentoring, guiding, supporting, and praying throughout the lives of children. So no matter how you are feeling this Father's Day, perhaps this prayer can offer words of thanksgiving, hope, remembrance and love.

O Lord, you are like a loving, nurturing parent. On this Father's Day, we give you thanks for all fathers, grandfathers, and godfathers. We remember and give thanks for all those men who have helped to nurture and guide us in our life's journey. Lord God, we also remember before you those fathers, who for various reasons, have not been present in the lives of their children. We remember and give thanks for the witness of those fathers who shared their stories of faith with us – and who are now with you in the church triumphant. In the strong name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

With you on the journey... Pastor Wayne