



4th Weekend of Advent

Saturday, December 21, 2024 5:30pm

Sunday, December 22, 2024 9:30am

Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for "the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."
It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in holy communion—with high delight—"we proclaim the Lord's death."

Gathering Music Hymnal sing-a-long with the Praise Band
Ringing of the Bell (9:30)
Welcome

Invocation

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

Lighting of the Advent Candles

In this season of longing and anticipation, we watch and wait for the light of Christ to come among us. God gives the promise of LOVE. God says, "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness." In this season of longing and anticipation, we light the candle of LOVE.

Song - The Candle of Love (to the tune of "O Worship, the King")

The candle of love tells what we are worth:
God loves us so much, God came to the earth!
An angel brought news of a child who would be
The one who would save us and set us all free.

Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon. **Amen.**
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
God of mercy, **we confess that we have sinned.**
We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.
We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,
we confess that we have sinned.
We have turned away from our neighbors.
We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,
we confess that we have sinned.
We plead: come to us.
Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,
in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.
By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God
through † Christ Jesus, whose day draws near. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Together we pray, **Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Gathering Song O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” ELW 257 (vs 1,6,7)

Scripture Readings

Micah 5:2-5a

2 But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.
3 Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.
4 And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;
5 and he shall be the one of peace.
If the Assyrians come into our land
and tread upon our soil,
we will raise against them seven shepherds
and eight installed as rulers.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hebrews 10:5-10

5 Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,
“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;

6 in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

7 Then I said, ‘See, I have come to do your will, O God’
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).”

8 When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), 9 then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. 10 And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Canticle of Praise/Magnificat using Holden Prayer

Psalm 141

All:



Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.

Leader or Group One:

O God, I call to you, come to me

All or Group Two:

O God, I

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of five staves. The first three staves are for the 'All' part, and the last two are for the 'Leader or Group One' and 'All or Group Two' parts. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

now; O hear my voice when I
call to you, come to me now; O

cry to you. Let my prayer rise
hear my voice when I cry to you.

up like in cense be - fore you, the
Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -

lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to
fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an

you. Keep watch with - in me, God;
of-fer-ing to you. Keep

deep in my heart may the light of your love be
watch with - in me, God; deep in my heart may the

burn - ing bright. Let my prayer rise
light of your love be burn - ing bright.

up like in - cense be - fore you, the
Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -

lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to
fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an

you. All praise to the God of all- Cre-
of-fer-ing to you. All

a - tor of life; all praise be to Christ and the
praise to the God of all- Cre - a - tor of life; all

Spir - it of love. Let my prayer rise
praise be to Christ and the Spir - it of love.

up like in - cense be - fore you, the
Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -

lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to
fore you, the lift - ing up of my hands as an

you.
of - fer - ing to you.

The Magnificat
 Luke 1: 46-55

All:

1.3. My soul pro - claims your
 2. You have cast the might - v

great-ness, O God, and my spir - it re-joic - es in
 down from their thrones, and up lift - ed the hum - ble of

you, You have looked with love on your
 heart. You have filled the hun - erv with
fine last time

ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.
 won - drous things, and left the wealth - y no part.

Great and might - y are you, O Ho - ly One,
 Great and might - y are you, O Faith - ful One,

strong is your kind - ness ev - er - more.
 strong is your jus - tice strong your love,

How you fa - vor the weak and low - ly one,
 As you prom - ised to Sar - ah and A - bra - ham,

hum - bling the proud of heart.
 kind - ness for - ev - er - more.

Gospel Reading Luke 1:39-55

The Gospel reading is found in the Gospel of Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

39 In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, 40 where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. 41 When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit 42 and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. 43 And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? 44 For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. 45 And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

46 And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

48 for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant.

Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed,

49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name;

50 indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

51 He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

52 He has brought down the powerful from their thrones
and lifted up the lowly;

53 he has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.

54 He has come to the aid of his child Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,

55 according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Message 5:30 Pastor Wayne Kopitzke "A Song for the Ages"
9:30 Pastor Dwaine Sutherland

Song of the Day "My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness" ELW 251

The Apostles' Creed (p. 105)

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

Sharing of the Peace

Offering Music

Offering Response "Create in Me a Clean Heart" ELW 185

Offertory Prayer

Together we pray, **Creator God, you made the whole world,
even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us.
We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine.
Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation
for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

Communion Music "Canticle of the Turning" ELW 723
"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" ELW 254
"What Feast of Love" ELW 487

Post Communion Prayer

Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation.
We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace.
We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world.
Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.
Amen.

Announcements

Sending Blessing

God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light,
God, our hope for the journey, bless and keep you now and forever.
Amen.

Sending Song

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning



1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your
2 Dark - er mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er
3 Lo, the morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the
4 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your



lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps
mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er mid - night
morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the morn - ing
lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps



trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.
lies be - fore us, for this work's al - most done.
soon is break - ing, for this work's al - most done.
trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.



Refrain

Chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry; chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry;



chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry, for this work's al-most done.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: KEEP YOUR LAMPS, African American spiritual

Dismissal

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel!
We will! Thanks be to God!

Postlude

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https://www.carolynshymns.com/the_candle_of_hope

PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF: Barb Haarstad, Mildred Syverson and Dorothy Freese

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK: Ann Hanson, Bonnie Muller, Barb Torkelson

Serving Saturday Night 5:30pm

Preaching: Pastor Wayne D. Kopitzke
Greeters: Wayne & Lynette Emberland
Lector: John Dean

Serving Sunday 9:30am

Preaching: Pastor Dwaine Sutherland
Presiding: Pastor Amy Juel
Acolytes: Aubrey Adams, Jakub Nurmi
Communion
Assistants: Keith Neumann, Cathy Halbritter
Greeters: Klint Torkelson, Loren & Smitty Luschen
Lector: Larry Knutson
Office: Cindy Moser - 9:15am - 10:30am
Sound: Doug Sawatzky
Video: David Sehloff

If you or a loved one would like a pastoral visit (ill, hospitalized, or just because), please contact:

Senior Pastor Dwaine Sutherland
(651) 500-7657 - dsutherland@calvarywillmar.org

Associate Pastor Amy Juel
(320) 282-2225 - ajuel@calvarywillmar.org

Associate Pastor Wayne Kopitzke
(320) 841-1951 - revwayne100@gmail.com

Our pastors are always willing to provide support in time of need.

2024 Calvary Council Leaders

Mary Jo DeCathelineau - Congregational President - grant01@tds.net
Brian Henrickson - Vice President - brian.henrickson60@gmail.com
Bridget Pederson - Secretary - bridgetpederson@yahoo.com
Harley Aalfs
Shane Baker
John Dean
Bob Dickerson
Caleb Hanson
Lori Holmgren

Weekly Attendance - 169 (5:30pm & 9:30am)
YouTube - 86 households (9:30am)
General Offering - \$10,206.21

THANK YOU!!

As 2024 comes to an end, the Social Kindness Committee wishes to thank you all for your generosity throughout this year. We have been amazed at the results from the drives we have held during the year: School supplies, personal needs, hats and mittens and our big one, the Giving Tree. The Christmas gifts have been distributed to those in need. It says so very much about our Calvary Church family and the generous outpouring for each of the causes. We appreciate it so much, as do the recipients of your kindness!

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year! Social Kindness Committee

TIME AND TALENTS NEEDED

Please consider giving your time and talents to either the Finance or Stewardship Committee! We are looking for individuals with skills in the area of finance who are good with numbers, projections, and have good analytical skills required to prepare budgets and make profit/loss predictions. For the Stewardship Committee we are looking for individuals with skills in relationship building, are comfortable working with people, and have a strategic mind for idea creation, finding solutions, and engaging others. If this sounds like you and you are committed to serve Calvary in this capacity, please contact either Shawn Swenson 218-443-0427 (shawnsenson@gmail.com) or Caleb Hanson 320-220-4939 (calebhanson91@gmail.com).

The updated Org Chart and Proposed ByLaws additions and edits have been approved by the Church Council and we will share it via constant contact email and have printed versions in the Narthex right after Christmas! A Coffee w/the ByLaws Committee will be scheduled in January. I extend much gratitude to the committee members and pastors, past and present, for their hard work and dedication to this endeavor! Thank you, Bridget Pederson, ByLaws Committee Chair

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS BEGINNING IN JANUARY

Is the Holy Spirit nudging you to get involved with Sunday School? Here's your chance! Our learners are in need of a teacher (or teaching team) in the **FIRST/SECOND** grade classroom and a part time teacher in the **FOURTH** grade classroom. Please contact Pastor Amy for more information!

MEMORIAL TREE

Honoring the memory of those we have lost

Thank you to all of those who have volunteered to help decorate the church for the holidays. Ornaments can be added to the Memory Tree located at the east entrance. Ornaments must be picked up by Monday, January 6th, or they will be stored for next time.

Want to help take down the tree and store the ornaments join us on Tuesday, January 7th at 10:30am. Many hands make the work more fun. There will be treats.

FAMILY PROMISE IS IN NEED OF MEAL PROVIDERS AND SERVERS
 Family Promise is in need of Meal Providers and servers January 20, 21 & 23. Meals to be delivered at 6pm and work until about 7:30pm. To be determined are the number of people who will be served. Thank you for considering helping with a meal on a date mentioned.



**Family Promise Weekly Update
 December 3, 2024**

Family Promise of Kandiyohi County: A community-based effort to help families experiencing homelessness.

The **Shelter** located on Pacific Ave in Willmar is operating with a 3 person staff and 7 housing rooms that can sleep up to 4-5 people per room depending on make-up of the family. In addition, we have 2 rooms on the second level being made ready as soon as we can.

Currently there are 21 congregations providing financial, in-kind, housing supplies, groceries and 3 weekly meals.

Current Guests:

1. Family of 3 (Father, Daughter 3, Daughter 4)
2. Single Female 60
3. Family of 2 (Mother, Daughter 9)
4. Family of 3 (Mother, Son 16, Son 9 Mother has them on the weekends)
5. Family of 4 (Father 34, Daughter 12, Son 9, Grandfather 60)
6. Family of 2 (Mother 36, Son 2)

Upcoming Host Churches:

1. December 2-8: Svea Lutheran
2. December 9-15: Unity Christian Reformed
3. December 16-22: Evangelical Covenant, Salem Crossroads UMC
4. December 23-29: Refuge Church
5. December 30-January 6: United Lutheran Lake Lillian

SEE 2024 CALENDAR [HERE](#)

***Family Promise still receives some mail addressed to: 312 SW 6th St (Presbyterian Church). We have been gone from there for almost a year, and our mail forwarding request will expire. Please Address Mail to:
 Family Promise
 PO Box 774
 Willmar, MN 56201**

Thank You: David Parker

Hopefully every church has been able to look and put the dates their church serves in their calendar. Click on the link below.

SEE 2025 CALENDAR [2025 Family Promise Meal & Grocery Support Schedule](#)

Go check out the Family Promise Christmas Tree at the Kandiyohi county Historical Society Kandikane Lane. Open Monday -Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm.

Family Promise would like to welcome Katrina Robinson to the Family Promise staff! She will be taking Bram's place on December 2nd. Her email is: volunteerengagement@familypromiseofkc.org

Thank You!!!!



Gratitude Spotlight

Thank you to our host congregations & especially those individuals that are preparing & serving meals as well as buying groceries. The guests are very appreciative for everything provided by our area churches through the meal support.

Thank you to all our donors that make this place possible.

Heidi Olson
 Guest Relations / Case Manager
 Family Promise of Kandiyohi County
heidionson@familypromiseofkc.org
 Cell Phone: (320) 905-9272

From the Staff...

At our weekly staff meeting we often get side-tracked sharing various stories and experiences. Last week, the topic was Christmas memories. Perhaps you can relate to some of our memories.

Here is our short list:

- The large...hot... bulb lights on a dry tree. Or real candles!
- The metal reflectors on each large bulb.
- Tinsel! Some put it on in handfuls, others strand by strand. Some disposed of it after the holidays while others carefully hung it on a hanger for the next year.
- Queen Anne Chocolate Covered Cherries were the "in" thing!
- A brown paper bag filled with hard ribbon candy, peanuts in the shell and an apple for post- Sunday School Program treats.
- Bubble lights on the tree or several on a base.
- Pastor Dwaine was Baby Jesus 100 years ago!

We pray the Light of the World brightens your Christmas Season!







CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

December 23 - 7:30am - 4:30pm

December 24 - 7:30 - 12:00pm

December 25 - CLOSED

December 26 - 7:30am - 2:00pm

December 27 - 7:30am - 2:00pm

December 30 - 7:30am - 4:30pm

December 31 - 7:30am - 12:00pm

January 1 - CLOSED

January 2 - 7:30am - 4:30pm

January 3 - 7:30am - 3:00pm

Advent Activities

- **Advent Wreath:** Each Sunday, light a candle and reflect on its meaning. The first candle represents hope, the second peace, the third joy, and the fourth love.

- **Daily Devotions:** Spend a few minutes each day reading a devotion or a passage from the Bible. Reflect on how it speaks to you and your life.

- **Acts of Kindness:** Find ways to help others. This could be volunteering, donating to those in need, or simply offering a kind word to someone who needs it.

Sunday, December 22

8:30am Coffee Time
9:30am Worship Service - P. Dwaine preach/P. Amy preside
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, December 23 (Office Hours 7:30am to 4:30pm)

5:00pm Bell Choir
7:00pm Little Norwegian Service - P. Dwaine

Tuesday, December 24 (Office Hours 7:30am to 12:00pm)

3:30pm Christmas Eve Service
5:30pm Christmas Eve Service
6:30pm Worship Service - WRAC 181
10:00pm Christmas Eve Service - P. Wayne

Wednesday, December 25 (Office Closed)

9:30am Christmas Day Service - P. Amy

Thursday, December 26 (Office Hours 7:30am - 2:00pm)

Friday, December 27 (Office Hours 7:30 - 2:00pm)

Saturday, December 28

5:30pm Chapel Service - P. Amy

Sunday, December 29

8:30am Coffee Time
9:30am Worship Service - P. Wayne
10:45am Worship Service on KWLM 1340 am or 96.3 fm
1:00pm Worship Service-WRAC 181
8:00pm Worship Service-WRAC 181

**This is an easy and convenient way to donate
to Calvary. Just click on our QR code. Thank you!**

