



Young Jesus in the Temple

1st Weekend of Christmas

Saturday, December 28, 2024 5:30pm

Sunday, December 29, 2024 9:30am

On the first Sunday of Christmas we find the boy Samuel and the boy Jesus, both in the temple, both growing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind. We too have returned to the house of God “to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God,” who has gifted us with a savior. As the festival continues, “let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.”
It is Christmas, still.

Gathering Music

Ringling of the Bell

Welcome

Invocation

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

Gathering Song “Once in Royal David’s City” ELW 269

Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
whose steadfast love is everlasting. **Amen.**
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

God-with-us,
**we confess that we have turned away
those seeking shelter,
claiming there is no room when we have plenty.
We have made power and wealth our idols,
while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger.
We have overlooked the shepherds,
expecting good news in prettier packaging.
Too often, we have valued violence
instead of your peace.
Turn us from our ways to your ways.
Grant us the grace to begin again.
Free us from all that keeps us bound,
and forgive our sin,
through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us. Amen.**

Hear the good news and rejoice!
You are God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved,
forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Together we pray, **Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Carol "The Bells of Christmas" ELW 298 (vs 1,4)

Scripture Readings

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

18 Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod.

19 His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. 20 Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife and say, "May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the loan that she made to the Lord," and then they would return to their home.

26 Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the Lord and with the people.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 148

1 Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!

**2 Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his host!**

3 Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars!

**4 Praise him, you highest heavens
and you waters above the heavens!**

5 Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for he commanded and they were created.

**6 He established them forever and ever;
he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.**

7 Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps,
fruit trees and all cedars!

**10 Wild animals and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds!**

11 Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!

**12 Young men and women alike,
old and young together!**

13 Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven.

**14 He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his faithful,
for the people of Israel who are close to him.
Praise the Lord!**

Here ends the reading of the Psalm.

Colossians 3:12-17

12 As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. 13 Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. 14 Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. 15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. 17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" ELW 275 (v 4)

Gospel Reading Luke 2:41-52

The Gospel reading is found in the Gospel of Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

41 Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. 42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. 43 When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents were unaware of this. 44 Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's

journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends.
45 When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him.
46 After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the
teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. 47 And all who
heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. 48 When his
parents saw him they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Child,
why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously
looking for you." 49 He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did
you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" 50 But they did not
understand what he said to them. 51 Then he went down with them and
came to Nazareth and was obedient to them, and his mother treasured all
these things in her heart. 52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years
and in divine and human favor.

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Message 5:30 Pastor Amy Juel
9:30 Pastor Wayne Kopitzke "Jesus at Twelve"

Song of the Day "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" ELW 288

The Apostles' Creed (p. 105)

Prayers of the Church (God of grace, **receive our prayer.**)

Sharing of the Peace

Offering Music

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

Offertory Prayer

Together we pray, **God of heaven and earth,
from the beginning, you have called forth life,
in which you take delight.
The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy.
Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty,
that we may join the chorus of creation
to tell of your salvation from day to day. 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 "All Earth Is Hopeful" ELW 266
"O Little Town of Bethlehem" ELW 279
"All My Heart Again Rejoices" ELW 273

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food.
Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace,
comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy. **Amen.**

Announcements

Sending Blessing

The God of love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
lavish you with grace, illumine your path,
and increase your joy, today and always. **Amen.**

Sending Song "Go Tell It on the Mountain" ELW 290

Dismissal

Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly!
Thanks be to God!

Postlude

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https://www.carolynshymns.com/the_candle_of_hope

PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF: Dorothy Freese

Weekly Attendance - 252 (Blue Christmas, Sat & Sun)

YouTube - 63 households (9:30am)

General Offering - \$17,707.32

Preaching: Serving Saturday Night 5:30pm
Pastor Amy Juel

Greeters: Wayne & Lynette Emberland

Lector: Julie Neumann

Preach/Preside: Serving Sunday 9:30am
Pastor Wayne D. Kopitzke

Acolytes: Brooke Madsen, Emma Larson

Communion Assistants: Shawn Swenson, Shane Baker

Greeters: Al & Elaine Simon

Lector: Bob Dickerson

Office: Teri Sokulski - 9:15am - 10:30am


Sound: Kim Larson

Video: Jody Skindelien

Bible Quiz

When 12-year-old Jesus stayed at the Jerusalem temple as Joseph and Mary started traveling home, after how many days did his parents find him?

- A. 1 day
- B. 2 days
- C. 3 days
- D. 7 days



Answer: C (See Luke 2:46.)



Sunday School Christmas Program December 8, 2024



I want to thank those of you who have taken the time to stop by and say hello and introduce yourselves to me and make me feel welcome here. A special thank you to those of you who dropped off snacks, cards and gifts this Christmas Season. To say I am Blessed with my new family at Calvary is an understatement... you are amazing and do such great things for our community! I am extremely happy to have been chosen to work at Calvary, the team here supports and lifts each other up every day. We work hard to get things done, make some mistakes, and when things get tough, we tend to laugh a lot. Thank you ALL for your patience with me this past year as I know that change is hard, but God is Good all the time Paula

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 for Sunday, January 5th. 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

SOCIAL KINDNESS COMMITTEE
Social Kindness will meet on Tuesday, January 7th at 1:00pm in the Friendship Room.

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!

FAMILY PROMISE UPDATE

Thank you to all who have signed up to serve meals January 20, 21 & 23. We now are in need of a grocery shopper to purchase groceries for that week using Family Promise funds. Groceries will need to be brought to Family Promise the morning of January 20th. Please call Joni Hanson 320-220-1324 if you are able to help out. Thank you!

CONFIRMATION RESUMES ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8TH AT 6:30 IN THE FRIENDSHIP ROOM. SEE EVERYONE THEN!

NOISY OFFERING AND YOUTH LED SERVICE WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 12TH.

NAME TAGS

If you requested a new name tag, please stop by the Church Office to pick it up. Thank you.

*Hey Calvary campers, our
camp week is set!*

**OUR CONGREGATION IS GOING
TO CAMP JUNE 15-19!**



JANUARY 2025 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 4th	5:30pm Traditional Worship - Pastor Dwaine preaching
Sunday, January 5th	8:00am Traditional Worship 9:05am Sunday School 10:15am Worship Pr. Amy preaching, Pr. Wayne presiding
Saturday, January 11th	5:30pm Traditional Worship - Pr. Wayne preaching
Sunday, January 12th	8:00am Traditional Worship 9:05am Sunday School 10:15am YOUTH LED & NOISY OFFERING Pr. Dwaine preaching, Pr. Amy presiding
Saturday, January 18th	5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel - Pr. Amy preaching
Sunday, January 19th	8:00am Traditional Worship 9:05am Sunday School 10:15am Praise Band Pr. Wayne preaching, Pr. Amy presiding
Saturday, January 25th	5:30pm Traditional Worship - Pastor Dwaine preaching
Sunday, January 26th	8:00am Traditional Worship 9:05am Sunday School 10:15am Praise Band Pr. Amy preaching, Pr. Wayne presiding

Dear Friends in Christ,

"...it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." (2 Cor. 4:6)

Ever so slowly and gradually God is turning up the light. Starting right around the annual winter solstice, the short winter days begin growing longer. How symbolic that Christmas is so close to the winter solstice. The increasing light of the sun reminds us of the light of God's Son. That was one of the themes of our Blue Christmas service held on December 18.

The season of Christmas will last now for 12 days, followed by the season of Epiphany. The season of Epiphany – from January 6 through March 2 – gives us time to reflect upon God shining into our hearts through Jesus. The stories that we will hear during the epiphany season will draw us again and again to the revealing of an identity. Who is this person born in Bethlehem? The Magi bring gifts of identity: gold for a king, frankincense for a priest, myrrh for the embalming of a body. At Jesus' baptism a light poured from heaven and a voice said, "You are my Son, my Beloved." At the wedding in Cana Jesus did the first of his signs and revealed his glory. Through the stories of Jesus' reading from the Isaiah scroll to the catch of fish at Galilee, to his transfiguration on the mountain – Jesus' identity is revealed.

When we live as people upon whom the light has shined, we are different. We are not like the sun, shining with its own heat and light – we are more like the moon, reflecting what shines on us. We are a mirror rather than a fire. We are reflections of God's love to our world.

As the Magi brought gifts to Jesus for the living out of his identity, so too are we given gifts for the living out of our lives as God's children. We Christians have a life to live, not just a message to tell; love to be acted out, not only explained; hope to be given, not merely kept privately for ourselves. Our ongoing task as Jesus' disciples is to share our gifts and to bring God's light and love to a world so much in need.

With you on the journey...
Pastor Wayne

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

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

Monday, December 30 (Office Hours 7:30 - 4:30pm)

Tuesday, December 31 (Office Hours 7:30am - 12:00 noon)

6:30pm Worship Service - WRAC 181

Wednesday, January 1 (Office Closed)

Thursday, January 2 (Office Hours 7:30am -2pm)

9:30am Text Bible Study
12:00pm Executive Committee (Zoom)
1:00pm Quilting
2:00pm Coffee with P. Dwaine at Lulu Beans

Friday, January 3 (Office Hours 7:30am - 2pm)

Saturday, January 4

5:30pm Chapel Service - P. Dwaine

Sunday, January 5

8:00am Worship - P. Amy preach/P. Wayne preside
9:00am Coffee Time with Bylaws Committee
9:05am Sunday School
9:15am "Let's Talk" - P. Dwaine in Gathering Room
10:15am 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

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

