



**Gathering with God and Friends**

Gathering Music/Ringing of Bell

Greet fellow worshipers

Song

*Cry of My Heart (chorus)*

Terry Butler

It is the cry of my heart to fol — low you. It is the of my heart to be close to you

5 It is the cry of my heart to fol - low all of the days of my life. —

Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness

**O God, we want to have our cake and eat it, too:**

**we want to be a friend of the world and still be your friend.**

**Yet, Jesus taught us: “No one can serve two masters.”**

**We ask for strength and courage to get our priorities straight:**

**Help us to live faithfully in the world, and to be friends with the people you call us to serve.**

**Help us also to remember that our best relationship is the one we have with you,**

**We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Dear friends in Christ, know that our God loves and forgives us  
so we can let go of our pain, anger, and bitterness. We are forgiven!  
**We are forgiven! With God's grace and love in our hearts,**  
**We will model God's grace and love to others.**  
**Thanks be to God! Amen!**

*Song Cry of My Heart-chorus only*

**God's Word**

Amos 8:4-7

4 Hear this, you who trample on the needy,  
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,  
5 saying, "When will the new moon be over  
so that we may sell grain,  
and the Sabbath,  
so that we may offer wheat for sale?  
We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier  
and practice deceit with false balances,  
6 buying the poor for silver  
and the needy for a pair of sandals  
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."  
7 The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob:  
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.  
Word of God. Word of Life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 113

<sup>1</sup> Praise the Lord!  
Praise, O servants of the Lord;  
praise the name of the Lord.  
<sup>2</sup> **Blessed be the name of the Lord  
from this time on and forevermore.**  
<sup>3</sup> From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
the name of the Lord is to be praised.  
<sup>4</sup> **The Lord is high above all nations  
and his glory above the heavens.**  
<sup>5</sup> Who is like the Lord our God,  
who is seated on high,  
<sup>6</sup> **who looks far down  
on the heavens and the earth?**

<sup>7</sup> He raises the poor from the dust  
and lifts the needy from the ash heap,  
<sup>8</sup> **to make them sit with princes,  
with the princes of his people.**  
<sup>9</sup> He gives the barren woman a home,  
making her the joyous mother of children.  
Praise the Lord!  
Here ends the reading of the Psalm.

1 Timothy 2:1-7

1 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, 2 for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. 3 This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, 4 who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God;  
there is also one mediator between God and humankind,  
Christ Jesus, himself human,  
6 who gave himself a ransom for all  
—this was attested at the right time. 7 For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.  
Word of God. Word of Life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Children's Surprise Bucket Sermon

*Song God Is so Good*

God is so good, God is so good, God is so good, God's so good to me.

Gospel Luke 16:1-13

The Gospel reading is found in the Gospel of Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

1 Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. 2 So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.' 3 Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me?

I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. 4 I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' 5 So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' 6 He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' 7 Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' 8 And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. 9 And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes. 10 "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. 11 If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? 12 And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? 13 No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon Pastor Amy Juel

Song Day by Day ELW 790

Ionian Creed (Statement of Belief)

**We believe that God is present in the darkness before dawn;  
in the waiting and uncertainty where fear and courage join hands,  
conflict and caring link arms, and the sun rises over barbed wire.**

**We believe in a with-us God who sits down in our midst  
to share our humanity.**

**We affirm a faith that takes us beyond a safe place:  
into action, into vulnerability and onto the streets.**

**We commit ourselves to work for change and put ourselves on the  
line; to bear responsibility, take risks, live powerfully and face  
humiliation; to stand with those on the edge; to choose life and be  
used by the Spirit for God's new community of hope. Amen.**

We Share Joys & Concerns in Prayer

We Reflect on Our Gifts & Blessings      *(He's Everything to Me)*

**Holy Communion**

The Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer

Communion Music      *His Banner Over Me*  
                                 *Great is Thy Faithfulness*      ELW 733  
                                 *I Am the Bread of Life*      ELW 485

Blessing/Prayer after Communion

Blessing on Homebound Communion

Announcements

**We are Sent Out to Spread the Good News!**

Sending Blessing

May the God who calls you "friend," bless you and direct your days and your deeds with peace. **Amen.**

*Song This Little Light of Mine      ELW 677*

Dismissal      *"Jesus says go"*

Reprise

Confession/Forgiveness based on: Bruce Gillette and Carolyn Winfrey Gillette for the Center for Christian Ethics. Thom Shuman, and posted on **Lectionary Liturgies** Blessing/Dismissal: the pastorsworkshop.com

**On rare occasions, pastors may receive anonymous letters from people, either within or outside of the congregation. As leaders of our congregation, we want you to know that such letters, because they are anonymous, are not given any credence or value. On the other hand, communications from members and friends of Calvary, signed and constructive, are always of value and greatly appreciated.**

**In His Service,  
Brian Henrickson, Congregation President  
Dion Warne, Congregation Vice-President  
Bridget Pederson, Congregation Secretary**

### **Serving Saturday**

**Preaching:** Pastor Amy Juel  
**Greeters:** Wayne & Lynette Emberland  
**Musician:** Naomi Baker  
**Lector:** Julie Neumann

### **Serving Sunday**

**Preaching:** Pastor Amy, Pastor Rick preside  
**Communion:** Lois Shaw, Shawn Swenson  
**Greeters:** Andy & Jean Berg  
**Musicians:** Naomi Baker, JoAnn Halverson, Jay Skrukrud, Laura Sehloff  
**Lector:** Brett Aamot  
**Office:** Alvina & Odee Henrickson  
**Sound/Video:** Mark Johnson/David Sehloff



### **Hospitalized:** Scott Danielson

If you or a family member has a health update, is hospitalized, or is in need of a visit, please contact the church office. We appreciate the opportunity to share celebrations & sadness.

A huge **THANK YOU** from Marian Gilbertson for all the people that sent her Birthday cards and greetings in honor of her 100th Birthday in April. She really appreciates the kindness that was sent her way.



## FAITH FORMATION / SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATES & REMINDERS:

**\*\*Thank you all for a great first day back in Sunday School! It was awesome to see so many kiddos and families 😊**

**\*\* Sunday School begins at 10:15 and ends at 11:15. There is coffee fellowship in the Friendship Room as well as a new COFFEE BAR in the Koinonia Room on the second floor of the Sunday School Wing. Parents are invited to stay and socialize, join in when Adult Forums are offered, check out the Library, or just relax!**

**\*\* Students in grades 1-5 have Opening in the Sanctuary at 10:15- they can go to the Sanctuary before going to their classroom. Students in 3-year-old, 4-year-old, and Kindergarten classes can go to their classrooms to begin their day.**

**\*\* Offering Envelopes were given to each student today. We are going to receive Sunday School offering during music time in the Sanctuary. Students were told about why offerings are collected (to help others) and we plan to decide as a Sunday School where our offerings will be donated. Just a reminder that there are many types of offerings and sharing of gifts- helping a friend is an offering; donating a coin is an offering; praying a prayer or singing a song is an offering. Please have a conversation with your child/children about loving others by giving of our time, skills, talents, or finances, and be blessed to share in whatever way is best for your family.**

**\*\* "God & Me" monthly EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL for families and their students younger than three years old will begin on September 21. Elissa Nelson is leading the group. We will meet in the Gathering Space from 10:15-11:15 on the THIRD SUNDAY of each month. Elissa will lead parents and children through a Bible Story and activities, songs, toys, and crafts that connect with the story of the day.**

**\*\* BRING YOUR BIBLE CHALLENGE- Each Sunday our classes will be tracking who brings their Bible to Sunday School with them! Before Christmas Break and at the end of the school year we will award PRIZES to those who have brought their Bibles THE MOST 😊. EACH STUDENT who has brought their Bibles EVERY SUNDAY OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR will receive a \$10 DAIRY QUEEN GIFT CARD!!!! (Students who do not have a Bible can get one from Pastor Amy)**

**\*\*THREE YEAR OLDS and THIRD GRADERS will receive Bibles during worship on Youth Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. If you have a student who is older than 3 or older than 3<sup>rd</sup> grade who has not received a Bible, please contact Pastor Amy or the church office and we will present a Bible to your student as well!**



## Calvary Lutheran Church Financial Summary for August 2025

### General Fund

- Total General Fund income is \$56,225, over the monthly budgeted income by \$1,808
- At \$52,317 the general offerings is under budget by \$433
- Actual monthly budgeted operating expenses were \$62,424 which is under budget by \$2,061
- Net Loss for the month is \$6,199, YTD Net Loss \$87,620
- Total Net Assets are (\$107,689)

### Readings and Psalm

[Amos 6:1a, 4-7](#)

*Warnings to those who are comfortable or wealthy*

[Psalm 146](#)

The LORD gives justice to those who are oppressed. (Ps. 146:7)

[1 Timothy 6:6-19](#)

*Eager to be rich or eager to pursue richness of God's justice?*

[Luke 16:19-31](#)

*Story of poor Lazarus and the wealthy man*

**If you would like to  
contribute to the  
mission of Calvary,  
please click on the  
QR code. Thank You!**



Weekly Attendance 229    You Tube 85    General Offering \$16,780.27

### Calvary's Worship Services are available:

**Sundays - 10:45am   KWLM 1340AM or 96.5FM**

**- 1 & 8pm   WRAC 181**

**Tuesdays - 6:30pm   WRAC 181**

**Anytime on YouTube -**

**[www.youtube.com/@calvarywillmar](https://www.youtube.com/@calvarywillmar)**





**Happening This Week...**

**Monday, Sept 22**

12pm Transition Team - Zoom  
5pm Bell Choir  
5pm - Scouts

**Tuesday, Sept 23**

5:45pm Worship Board

**Wednesday, Sept 24**

6:15pm 6-9 Confirmation - Gathering Place

**Thursday, Sept 25**

9:30am Text Bible Study - Friendship Room  
1pm Quilting  
GS Troop #3656 - Koinonia Rm

**Saturday, Sept 27**

5:30pm Chapel Service **with Coffee with Council in the Friendship Room following Chapel Service.**

**Sunday, Sept 28**

9am Worship; 10am Coffee with Council in both  
**Friendship & Koinonia Rooms**  
10:15am Sunday School  
1pm - Council/Transition Team Retreat - GL Bible Camp



**PreK - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade will be singing  
October 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am Array Worship!**

## LIBRARY NEWS

The Calvary Library is looking for volunteers to work in the library after the 9am Sunday Worship during the Sunday School hour. This is a no stress volunteer opportunity and training will be provided. If this is something that you might be interested in helping with, please contact Beth Bloomquist (320-905-8678), Kristi Glup (320-979-0295), or Cathy Halbritter (320-979-0129).

## Book Summary

**The Boy with Big, Big Feelings** by Britney Winn Lee is relatable for any child -- especially for a child experiencing anxiety, extreme emotions, a child identified as a Highly Sensitive Person, or a child on the autism spectrum. Beautifully illustrated and written in rhyming verse, children and adults explore the whole spectrum of feelings and readers navigate the emotional challenges they face throughout the day. The boy in the story tries to cope by stuffing down his feelings, but with a little help and artistic inspiration, the boy realizes his feelings are something to be celebrated.



The Interior Decorating committee is looking for a donation of 8-10 real pumpkins to use in our Fall Harvest decorating in November. A few gourds would also be welcome. If you have any that we could use, please contact Lori Holmgren (320-905-8431) or Cathy Halbritter (320-979-0129). We can take them prior to November and store them.



Willmar Middle School Gateway to Technology classes are looking for 1/2-gallon cardboard containers. The goal is to have 40 by December for their upcoming project. Be sure to rinse the containers and can be dropped off near the harvest share table at the east entrance. Thank you!

## CREATION CARE TIP

**Reduce, Reuse, Recycle** – Notice the order! Reducing is the most important and reusing is next. It actually takes a lot of energy to recycle. Try to think about reusing something before putting it in the recycle bin.

 <b>2025 WORSHIP AT CALVARY</b>	
Saturday, Sept. 6 <sup>th</sup>	5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel
Sunday, Sept. 7 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am <b>SUNDAY SCHOOL KICK-OFF</b> <i>Back to School/Teacher/Helper Blessings</i> 10:00am Games/God's Work-Our Hands 11:00am Potluck
Saturday, Sept. 13 <sup>th</sup>	5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel
Sunday, Sept. 14 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am Traditional Worship - coffee following 10:15am Sunday School 
Saturday, Sept. 20 <sup>th</sup>	5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel
Sunday, Sept. 21 <sup>st</sup>	9:00am Array Worship - coffee following 10:15am Sunday School
Saturday, Sept. 27 <sup>th</sup>	5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel
Sunday, Sept. 28 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am Traditional Worship Coffee with Council following worship in <u>Friendship AND</u> <u>Koinonia Rooms</u> 10:15am Sunday School

**ADDITION TO THIS SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE - ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH FOLLOWING THE 5:30PM CHAPEL WORSHIP, THERE WILL BE COFFEE WITH THE COUNCIL IN THE FRIENDSHIP ROOM.**

### **Some Quick Facts about Who Participated in C.A.T.**

- Age demographic: 5% are 0-34; 11% are 35-54; 12% are 55-64; 71% are 65+
- Households: 29% are one-person; 53% are two-person; 16% are three to four persons; 2% are five persons or more.
- Tenure: 72% have been members 20+ years; 15% under 11 years.
- Education attainment: 15% high school diploma; 32% some college; 30% college graduate; 7% some post graduate work; 15% graduate degree.

Your Pastor Transition Team

Caleb Hanson; Kim Hanson; Susan Roepke and Bridget Pederson

And here are some upcoming events for you to watch for;

On October 2, the congregation will receive a "Constant Contact" email from the Transition Team with a final summary of the Church Assessment Tool (C.A.T.) and on October 9, at 7:00 p.m., the Transition Team will be hosting a gathering at church to present these findings to you.

The time is drawing closer for all of you to begin praying (if you aren't already) for the process of calling your next pastor.

On September 28 your Church Council, pastors and Transition Team will be meeting at Green Lake Bible Camp for an afternoon retreat to begin creating "Reinvention Concrete Ideas" for Calvary's near future, all built upon the results of the Church Assessment Tool (C.A.T.) that many of you participated in this summer.

This retreat will be followed by an October 2 "Constant Contact" to all of you with a summary report of the C.A.T. findings as given to us by our consultant, Pastor Kurt Jacobson. The Transition Team will then be hosting an October 9 gathering at 7:00 p.m. for the people of Calvary when the Team will be presenting the C.A.T. findings along with a report on the "concrete ideas" created by the Church Council.

Along with the above gatherings, the Transition Team, and 2 or 3 others suggested by the Church Council, will be working on the Ministry Site Profile, which is a document the Southwestern Minnesota Synod staff uses as it searches for candidates to be interviewed for the next pastor position..

The Church Council will also, as directed by our constitution, be appointing a Call Committee which will oversee the interviewing of pastor candidates recommended by the synod, and the recommendation of a final candidate to the Congregation to consider calling as your next pastor.

That's a lot to pray about! But this entire process must be covered in prayer. After all, as I shared with you in my first sermon, it is important to remember that ultimately this is not about what "we want," it is about what "God wants!"

Pastor Rick