

Advent 2



Forgiveness

New Identity



Transformation

Prelude

Welcome/Greet one another

Lighting of the Advent Candles

We light the candles of Hope and Peace.

Dear God, **as we journey down this Advent road,
grant us the courage to make peace.**

Peace in our hearts,

Peace in our homes,

Peace in our communities. Amen.

Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness

**God of our past, present and future, we pause for a moment to reflect
silently on our earthly brokenness, and sinful greed.**

Because of your love of humanity through your son, Jesus Christ,
there is redemption, there is transformation and there is hope
for new life.

**We can have redemption, we can be transformed and we have hope
for new life because of the power of your forgiveness. Awaken us and
help us to embrace the opportunity you give us to change our
sometimes dark and lonely selves into generous and loving humans.**

Hear the good news!

Our loving and generous God has forgiven our sins of the past, sins of the present and our sins of the future.

✠ In Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.

Thanks be to God. Amen!

Gathering Hymn *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel ELW 257 vs. 3,4*

Scripture Reading

Acts 9:1-17

1 Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest 2 and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. 3 Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. 4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" 5 He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. 6 But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." 7 The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. 8 Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. 9 For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank. 10 Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." 11 The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, 12 and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." 13 But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, 14 and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." 15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; 16 I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." 17 So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." 18 And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was

restored. Then he got up and was baptized, 19 and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, 20 and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." 21 All who heard him were amazed and said, "Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem among those who invoked this name? And has he not come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?" 22 Saul became increasingly more powerful and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Messiah. 23 After some time had passed, the Jews plotted to kill him, 24 but their plot became known to Saul. They were watching the gates day and night so that they might kill him, 25 but his disciples took him by night and let him down through an opening in the wall, lowering him in a basket.

26 When he had come to Jerusalem, he attempted to join the disciples, and they were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he was a disciple.

27 But Barnabas took him, brought him to the apostles, and described for them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who had spoken to him, and how in Damascus he had spoken boldly in the name of Jesus.

Word of God. Word of Life

Thanks be to God.

Children's Message (9:00)

Sermon Pastor Amy Juel

Hymn of the Day *There is a Balm in Gilead* ELW 614

An Advent Creed

**We believe in God the Father, creator of heaven and earth.
The one who is full of patience,
who is not afraid of silence,
who does not need to fill each moment with activity and noise.
The one who is beyond bluster and flurry,
and who does not jostle for attention.**

**We believe in God the Son, Saviour of creation,
who slipped into Bethlehem one night, mostly unnoticed,
who lived thirty years without headlines or hurry,
who frequently took time alone with his patient Father,
who waited for the right time to become the suffering servant,
who stood quietly before the noise of his accusers,**

**whose silence overpowered their words,
who died, then rose again on a quiet Sunday morning.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens, empowers, renews and refreshes,
sometimes arriving with obvious power,
sometimes with the quiet breath of a whisper.**

**We believe in one God
who patiently waits for us,
and who longs for us to do the same.**

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

Offering

Ever-present God, **we offer our gifts of time, effort, love and, yes, even
our possessions. Thank you for giving us this opportunity to forward
your remarkable acts of kindness. In your name we pray, Amen.**

The Words of Institution and The Lord's Prayer

Communion Music	<i>Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding</i>	ELW 246
	<i>Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling</i>	ELW 608
	<i>My Faith Looks Up to Thee</i>	ELW 759

Post Communion Prayer

Announcements

Sending Blessing

Sending Hymn *All Earth is Hopeful* ELW 266 (9:00 Noisy Offering)

Dismissal

Go in Peace. Share God's love!

We will. Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Advent Candle readings~ written by Katherine Hawker and posted on Liturgy Outside.
www.liturgyoutside.net

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<https://engageworship.org/>

Serving Saturday

Preaching: Pastor Amy Juel
Greeters: Wayne & Lynette Emberland
Musician: JoAnn Halverson
Lector: Nancy Holt

Serving Sunday

Preaching: Pastor Amy Juel
Acolytes: Ava & Ethan Johnson
Communion: Harley Aalfs, Lori Holmgren, Lois Shaw
Greeters: Mark & Colleen Thompson, Larry Laingen
Musician: Sandy Hanson
Lector: Emma Larson
Office: Debra Johnson
Sound/Video: Dean Hanson/David Sehloff

Happening This Week...

Monday, Dec 8	8am Stewardship Meeting at McMillans 2pm Staff Meeting 6:30pm Scouts
Tuesday, Dec 9	9:30am Lefse Making 11:30am Finance Committee 6pm Council - Koinonia Room 6pm Troop #3749 - Rooms 203/205
Wednesday, Dec 10	6:15pm 6-9 Grade Confirmation
Thursday, Dec 11	9:30am Text Study 6pm Troop #3655 Rooms 203/205
Friday, Dec 12	6:30pm Build Your Gingerbread House - Friendship Rm
Saturday, Dec 13	2pm Christmas Program Practice in Sanctuary 5:30pm Chapel Worship
Sunday, Dec 14	9am Sunday School Program/Worship/Coffee Potluck following Christmas Program 12pm - Youth Leadership Team Shopping 3pm Eagle Scout Ceremony- Sanctuary/Bethany Hall 3pm Troop #3500 - Friendship Room 4pm Troop #3515 - Rooms 203/205

LUNCH AND A MOVIE - A CHRISTMAS CAROL (1984)

TODAY - 11:30AM

A simple lunch of soup and bread followed by watching the 1984, George C. Scott version of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol". Perfect timing with our Advent sermon series, SCROOGE.

ORDER YOU POINSETTIAS TODAY!

Today is your last day to order. The cost is \$12 per plant. Stop by the church office along with your payment. Please make checks payable to Calvary Lutheran Church. You may take your plant home after the service on **December 24th.**

ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE

**If you have not submitted your annual reports to Paula, please do so as soon as possible. Email plueders@calvarywillmar.org.
THANK YOU!**

LET'S MAKE LEFSE

Lefse making in the Calvary kitchen on Tuesday, December 9 at 9:30am. If interested, please contact Enola at 320-444-1818. Please let her know ASAP so she can make plans.

**BUILD YOUR OWN CARDBOARD "GINGERBREAD" HOUSE EVENT
FOR ALL AGES - FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12 FROM 6:30—8PM**

Family and Friends of all ages are invited to join together to make a cardboard "Gingerbread" house! Boxes and supplies, snacks and beverages will be provided.

**CALVARY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14 @9am
THE TWELVE PRAYERS OF CHRISTMAS**

We will share in favorite Christmas Scriptures and Hymns and follow our worship with a Potluck Christmas party for all ages!

CALVARY'S GIVING TREE

Please choose an ornament (or 2), purchase the gift and place it in a gift bag with the colored ornament attached. Gifts need to be brought to the office **BEFORE DECEMBER 14TH** to be distributed before Christmas. What a joy this will bring to those who may not otherwise receive a gift. THANK YOU!
Social Kindness Committee

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAKING DAY

Annual Baking Day will be Tuesday, December 16 at 9am. Lunch will be served. If you are interested, please give Bob & Connie a call at 320-354-4272 so they can plan accordingly. Thank you!

MEMORIAL TREE

Honoring the memory of those we have lost

Our beautiful Memorial Tree is located at the east entrance. You may add your ornaments during regular office hours, Monday-Thursday 7:30 - 4 and Fridays 7:30 - 2:30. Please pick up ornaments by Monday, January 5th or they will be stored for next time. Thank you!

NTY

Friday, December 12, 12:00 Noon

Terry Shaw will again entertain us with his Christmas medleys. Always a fun time and the last time of meeting until next April. If you still have your Christmas sweater hanging in the back of your closet, get it out and wear it one more time for NTY!! If you can't make it for the noon lunch, come and enjoy the program at 1:00. Guests are always welcome also!! Please call the church office by 4:30 Wednesday, December 10, to register for the catered lunch. Cost for lunch is \$7.00, payable in Bethany Hall and not at the church office. Please bring a few Christmas goodies, if you are able, to share for dessert. Thank you. If any questions, please call Diane Asche at 295-8938.



BEFRIENDERS VIRTUAL EVENT JANARY 13, 2026

Teepa Snow's Normal Vs. Not Normal Aging

Calvary BeFrienders welcome you to join us for this virtual event on Tuesday January 13, 2026 from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Friendship Room. In this session you will learn what normally changes in our minds as we age, and what changes may not be normal and possibly a sign of dementia or other illnesses. Amy House, a recognized leader in dementia care and education, will discuss what to do if something is not normal and how to approach the subject with a loved one or family member. Pre-registration is required with a cost of \$10 per person. Please call the church office by Friday, January 9th to register or for more information.

Calvary BeFriender Leaders,
Beth Bloomquist and Nancy Holt



DECEMBER 2025 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, Dec. 6th	5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel
Sunday, Dec. 7th	9:00am Array Worship/Youth Led/Noisy Offering (coffee following) 10:15 Sunday School
Saturday, Dec. 13th	5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel
Sunday, Dec. 14th	9:00am Youth Christmas Program Christmas Potluck to follow (no formal Sunday School classes)
Thursday, Dec. 18th	6:30pm Blue Christmas Service
Saturday, Dec. 20th	5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel
Sunday, Dec. 21st	9:00am Array Worship (coffee following) (no Sunday School)
Tuesday, Dec. 23rd	7:00pm Little Norwegian Christmas Worship
Wednesday, Dec. 24th	3:30pm, 5:30pm, 10:00pm Christmas Eve Worship
Thursday, Dec. 25th	9:00am Christmas Day Worship in the Chapel
Saturday, Dec. 27th	5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel
Sunday, Dec. 28th	9:00am Traditional Worship (no Sunday School)

Last Week's Financials

IRA/QCD/s	\$6,100.00
Online Giving	\$1,859.05
Sat./Sun. Giving	\$1,998.50
Total	\$12,957.55

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



Weekly Attendance

Saturday 23
Sunday 135
You Tube 84
Sunday School 29
Confirmation 22

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

