

# Advent 4



## New Life in Christ

Hope



## New Year

Prelude

Welcome/Greet one another

Lighting of the Advent Candles

We light the candles of Hope and Peace, Joy, and Love.

Dear God, **As our Advent pilgrimage draws to completion,**  
**grant us the courage to share your love.**

**Love for the unexpected challenge,**

**Love for the vulnerable one.**

**Love for the presence of God. Amen.**

Gathering Song *He Came Down*

v1 He came down that we may have HOPE.

v2 PEACE      v3 JOY      v4 LOVE

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. 7,8

Scripture Reading

Romans 8:18-24, 28

18 I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. 19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, 20 for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, 23 and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees?

28 We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message

Sermon    Pastor Amy Juel

Hymn of the Day     *Do You Hear What I Hear*

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      *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning*

The Words of Institution and The Lord's Prayer

Communion Music      *Even So Come*  
                                 *Prepare the Royal Highway*      *ELW 264*  
                                 *In the Bleak Midwinter*      *ELW 294*

Post Communion Prayer

Blessing of Homebound Communion

Announcements

Sending Blessing

Sending Hymn      *Joy to the World ELW 267*

Dismissal

Go in Peace. Prepare the way of the Lord!  
**We will. Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

Advent Candle readings~ written by Katherine Hawker and posted on Liturgy Outside. [www.liturgyoutside.net](http://www.liturgyoutside.net) Advent Creed~ copyright © Dave Hopwood/[engageworship.org](http://engageworship.org). Posted on Area 52/Engage Worship. <https://engageworship.org/>

## **\*\*Blue Christmas Service will be held today at 4pm**

**HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK:** Mary Jo deCathelineau

**SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS TO THE FAMILY OF:** Abby Fellows (Jones), daughter of Dustin Jones

### **Serving Saturday**

**Preaching/Preside:** Pastor Amy Juel / Brother Doug Dockter, OSB  
**Greeters:** Wayne & Lynette Emberland  
**Musician:** Naomi Baker  
**Lector:** Cindy Dean

### **Serving Sunday**

**Preaching/Presiding:** Pastor Amy Juel / Brother Doug Dockter, OSB  
**Acolytes:** Keltyn Quist, Ben Rosendahl  
**Communion:** Sarah Kallevig, Heather Bonnema, Lola Nelson  
**Greeters:** Loren & Smitty Luschen, Klint Torkelson  
**Musician:** Naomi Baker, JoAnn Halverson  
**Lector:** Joni Hanson  
**Office:** Dorie Larsen  
**Sound/Video:** Victoria Larsen/Jody Skindelien

### **Happening This Week...**

**Monday, Dec 22** 2pm Staff Meeting  
**Tuesday, Dec 23** 4:30pm Creation Care - Friendship Room  
7pm Little Norwegian Service  
**Wednesday, Dec 24** Christmas Eve Services - 3:30pm, 5:30pm, 10pm  
**Thursday, Dec 25** 9am Worship in Chapel  
**Saturday, Dec 27** 5:30pm Chapel Worship - Coffee & Conversation with Thomas Bonnema following service  
**Sunday, Dec 28** 9am Worship - Coffee & Conversation with Thomas Bonnema following service (No Sunday School)

### **WELCOME HOME!**

On Saturday, December 27 and Sunday, December 28 we welcome Calvary's own, Thomas Bonnema to bring our sermon message. Thomas is a student at Luther Seminary in St. Paul. Following each worship service, he will join us for coffee fellowship in the Friendship Room and share with us an update on his Seminary journey. We hope that you will join us for either of our worship services and stay for coffee. Please wear your nametag to help Thomas recognize you and call you by name!

### **ANNUAL MEETING - AMENDMENT OF BYLAW C8.05E01**

The Annual Meeting for Calvary will be held on Sunday, January 25th in Bethany Hall following the 9am service. At the meeting there will be a vote to amend Bylaw C8.05e01 of the Calvary Constitution. A letter and email were sent out to all contacts in our system, and we will have copies of the letter in the office.

### **FAMILY PROMISE HOST WEEK**

Calvary's Family Promise Host week will be January 12-16, 2026. We need volunteers to bring meals for Tuesday, January 13; and Thursday, January 15. Please contact Joni Hanson at 320-220-1324 if you are able to help. Thank you!

### **CIRCLE OF WELCOME UPDATE**

Circle of Welcome Update - Greetings! Even though you have not heard from us for awhile, we continue to work in supporting our refugee family. We have been busy helping with transportation and support at medical appointments, assisting with some daily living challenges at the apartment, and most recently, working on getting everything completed that is necessary for their green card applications. Sadly, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has recently paused or put under review many green card applications. These new rules, effective December 2025, mean no final decisions are being made, and a full re-review of all cases is underway. We ask you to continue to keep this family in your prayers.

### **CREATION CARE TIP**

**Set your thermostat to 68 degrees in the winter** – Save up to \$70 per year. You can save up to 10% on your heating bills by simply turning your thermostat down for 7-10 degrees for eight hours.

**Creation Care** is changing their meeting date /time to the 4th Tuesday at 4:30pm starting **Tuesday, December 23**. Any questions, please contact Jack Behr.

### **BEFRIENDERS VIRTUAL EVENT JANUARY 13, 2026**

Teepa Snow's Normal Vs. Not Normal Aging

Calvary BeFriends 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 9<sup>th</sup> to register or for more information.

Calvary BeFriender Leaders - Beth Bloomquist and Nancy Holt

### **THANK YOU!**

As 2025 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, Food Shelf, 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 these causes. We appreciate it so much, as do the recipients of your kindness! We also want to thank Paula and Marie for their extra help and Pastor Amy and the Youth Leadership Team for their help with shopping. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Social Kindness Committee

**\*If you or a family member has a health update, is hospitalized, or is in need of a visit, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE and we will visit you. We appreciate the opportunity to share all aspects of your life with you- both the celebrations and the sadness. You are not alone... and you are loved.**

**Pastor Amy Juel  
(320) 282-2225 - [ajuel@calvarywillmar.org](mailto:ajuel@calvarywillmar.org)**

## **Come and Worship**

With eyes wide open  
and our ears on edge,  
we look for shepherds  
and listen for the songs of angels.  
In the light of winter's moon,  
with the Southern Cross lighting the way,  
we gather outside the door of a mystery,  
wondering if we dare go enter.  
With folks and friends we love,  
with strangers we have just met,  
we gather, becoming the holy family  
for this time and in this place.

## **We pray...**

Now in the silence,  
    whisper of joy which comes  
    into every life.  
Now in the comfort of carols,  
    sing of hope which  
    takes away the despair  
    which envelops us.  
Now in familiar words heard anew,  
    speak to us of grace  
    which is born into barren lives,  
    of peace which is birthed  
    in war's shadowed fears.  
Now leaning next to those  
who have always been a part of us,  
and those from whom we have been apart,  
    remind us of your heart  
    which always accepts us,  
    always welcomes us.  
Now in the love which is ours forever,  
    draw us closer to your heart,  
    so we can be surprised by wonder,  
        swaddled in serenity,  
        embraced by tenderness.  
Now touch us once again with Christmas- God in Community, Holy three in One,  
Immanuel.  
-Amen

## DECEMBER 2025 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

### Last Week's Financials

IRA/QCD/s	\$15,920.03
Online Giving	\$ 2,046.35
Sat./Sun. Giving	\$ 6,320.50
Total	\$24,286.88

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



### Weekly Attendance

Saturday 29  
Sunday 266  
You Tube 167

### 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](http://www.youtube.com/@calvarywillmar)**

