



***Fifth Weekend in Lent***

*Saturday, March 21, 2026 5:30pm*

*Sunday, March 22, 2026 9:00am*

In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome the newly baptized as we remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.

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Prelude

Ring of the Bell

Welcome/Greeting

Gathering Hymn *"Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service" ELW 712*

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

Gracious God,

For failing to recognize your coming reign, and

for hindering the work of the Spirit:

Gracious God

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and

for disdaining the living water Christ offers:

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin,

and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world.

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,  
and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:  
Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.  
Through faith, the free gift of God,  
you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.  
The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead  
dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts,  
and gives you life and peace  
**Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

**Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Scripture **Ezekiel 37:1-14**

<sup>1</sup> The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup> He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup> He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." <sup>4</sup> Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. <sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup> I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."

<sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup> I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup> I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

<sup>11</sup> Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ <sup>12</sup> Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup> And you shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup> I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.”

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Message (9:00am)

Gospel: John 11:1-45

<sup>1</sup> Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup> Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup> So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” <sup>4</sup> But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” <sup>5</sup> Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, <sup>6</sup> after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

<sup>7</sup> Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” <sup>8</sup> The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?” <sup>9</sup> Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. <sup>10</sup> But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them.” <sup>11</sup> After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.” <sup>12</sup> The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.” <sup>13</sup> Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. <sup>14</sup> Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. <sup>15</sup> For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” <sup>16</sup> Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.” <sup>17</sup> When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup> Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, <sup>19</sup> and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. <sup>20</sup> When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. <sup>21</sup> Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But even now I know that

God will give you whatever you ask of him.”<sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”<sup>24</sup> Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.”<sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,<sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”<sup>27</sup> She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”<sup>28</sup> When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.”<sup>29</sup> And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him.<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him.<sup>31</sup> The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there.<sup>32</sup> When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”<sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved.<sup>34</sup> He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.”<sup>35</sup> Jesus began to weep.<sup>36</sup> So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!”<sup>37</sup> But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”<sup>38</sup> Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it.<sup>39</sup> Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.”<sup>40</sup> Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?”<sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me.<sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.”<sup>43</sup> When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”<sup>44</sup> The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”<sup>45</sup> Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *“Precious Lord, Take My Hand” ELW 773*

Apostle’s Creed

Prayer's of the Church (Hear Us, O God, **your mercy is great**)

Offering

Offering Prayer

**O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen**

Lord's Prayer (9:00am)

Words of Institution and The Lord's Prayer (5:30pm)

Communion Music (5:30pm)

Blessing and Prayer after Communion (5:30pm)

God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all reaction, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sending Blessing

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, bless you now and always. **Amen.**

Sending Song "*What Wondrous Love Is This*" ELW 666

Dismissal

Go in peace. Believe the good news!

**Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

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**TODAY'S BULLETIN IS SPONSORED IN LOVING MEMORY OF RICHARD TOUTGE WHO PASSED AWAY MARCH 20, 1992 BY HIS WIFE CAROL AND FAMILY.**

<b><u>Serving Saturday</u></b>	
<b>Preaching:</b>	Pastor David Nelson
<b>Greeters:</b>	Wayne & Lynette Emberland
<b>Musician:</b>	Kristine Benson
<b>Lector:</b>	Bob Dickerson
<b><u>Serving Sunday</u></b>	
<b>Lay Leader:</b>	Danette Hendrickson
<b>Musician:</b>	Carter Kowitz
<b>Acolytes:</b>	Tenley Kotrba, Ben Rosendahl
<b>Greeters:</b>	South-Brett & Kathy Aamot; East-Paul & Janelle Higdem North-Ron & Bonnie Keith
<b>Lector:</b>	Andy Berg
<b>Office:</b>	Julie Olson
<b>Sound/Video:</b>	Mark Johnson/Jody Skindelien

**\*\*Thank you Pastor David Nelson and Danette Hendrickson for leading our worship services this weekend! \*\***

**PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF: Mary Solbrekken**

**HANDBELL INVITATION - EASTER GATHERING HYMN**

All are invited to join in ringing handbells for the Easter gathering hymn! No prior handbell experience is necessary—just a willingness to participate in celebrating the joy of Easter morning. We will rehearse briefly after the Maundy Thursday service and again before the Easter service. If you're interested in ringing, please contact the church office or speak with Molly Aalfs.

**JOIN THE BOARD OF WORSHIP!**

The Board of Worship needs **YOU!** Join us as we meet to discuss, plan, and evaluate all aspects of our congregation's worship, music, and spiritual cares. Help us to grow our hospitality and welcoming ministries! For more information, contact current Board of Worship members: Cathy Halbritter - Council Liaison, Victoria Larsen, and Michelle Fernholz.

**NAME TAGS**

We will be ordering Name Tags soon so if you need one, please let the Church Office know. Thank you!



<b>Happening This Week...</b>	
<b>Monday, March 23</b>	1pm - Sanctuary Clean Up
<b>Tuesday, March 24</b>	4:30pm - Creation Care
	6pm - Troop #3749 Rooms 203/205
<b>Wednesday, March 25</b>	5:30pm Meal/6:15pm Worship/7pm Confirmation
<b>Thursday, March 26</b>	9:30am - Text Bible Study
	11:00am - Cemetery Board - Friendship Room
	1pm - Quilting
	6pm - Troop #3655 Friendship Room
<b>Friday, March 27</b>	12pm - Executive Board Meeting
	7pm - Movie Night Grades 5-12
<b>Saturday, March 28</b>	5:30pm - Chapel Worship
<b>Sunday, March 29</b>	9am Worship/10am Coffee Time
	10:15am - Sunday School

**THRIVENT MEMBERS**

With the start of the new year, don't forget to designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars. Log into your Thrivent account and designate Calvary Lutheran Church as a recipient. Choice Dollars lets members choose where Thrivent distributes a portion of its funding each year.

**THANK YOU!**

A huge thank you to those who designated your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Calvary. We recently received \$2,596.00.

**CEMETERY MOWING BIDS**

Our cemetery committee is seeking bids to mow our church cemetery this year. If you know of someone, please contact Kevin Hanson 320-894-7949.

**Last Week's Financials**

IRA/QCD/s	\$ 5,906.46
Online Giving	\$ 2,624.35
Sat./Sun. Giving	\$ 5,260.50
Total	\$13,791.31

**Weekly Attendance**

Wed March 11 - 79  
 (YouTube) - 70  
 Saturday 44  
 Sunday - no service

**Readings and Psalm**

**Isaiah 50: 4-9a**  
**Psalm 31:9-16**  
**Philippians 2:5-11**  
**Matthew 26:14-27:66**

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

