



“What did you go out into the wilderness to see?”

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 17, 2023

**Calvary Lutheran Church
Topeka, KS**

Today at Calvary Lutheran Church, we celebrate our Lord's Supper. If you are a member in good standing of an LCMS congregation, we welcome you to the fellowship of our Lord's Body and Blood at this table. However, if you are a guest, whether from another LCMS congregation or elsewhere, and would like to receive the Lord's Body and Blood in this Sacrament and the forgiveness that He has won by them, we kindly ask that you speak with the pastor before the service.

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING THREE

Lutheran Service Book P. 184–202

**Indicates to Stand*

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND *OPENING PRAYER

OPENING HYMN: "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" # 344

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
 3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
 4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent

that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
 way for God with - in, And let us all our
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we
 fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther

for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text and tune: Public domain

***CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

(The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism)

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. *[Hebrews 10:22]*

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalm 32:5

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination)

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

[John 20:19-23]

***INTROIT:** Philippians 4:4–5; Psalm 85:1–2, 6, 8

P: Rejoice in the Lord always;

C: again I will say, Rejoice.

P: Let Your reasonableness be known to everyone.

C: The Lord is at hand.

P: Lord, You were favorable to your land;

C: You restored the fortunes of Jacob.

P: You forgave the iniquity of your people;

C: You covered all their sin.

P: Will You not revive us again,

C: that Your people may rejoice in You?

P: Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,

C: for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

***GLORIA PATRI**

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

***KYRIE** ~ *Lord Have Mercy*

Mark 10:47

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

***SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

P: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

And with thy spir - it.

P: Let us pray. . . . one God, now and forever.

A - men.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 40:1–8

P: Comfort, comfort My people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower

fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL: Psalm 80:1–2

P: You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.

C: **Stir up Your might and come to save us!**

P: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,

C: **You who lead Joseph like a flock!**

EPISTLE READING: 1 Corinthians 4:1–5

P: This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR: *“Emmanuel, Expected Jesus”*

***ALLELUIA**



***HOLY GOSPEL:** Matthew 11:2–10

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.



☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

P: When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by His disciples and said to Him, “Are You the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by Me.” As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written, “Behold, I send my messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You.””

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

***APOSTLES’ CREED:** *(spoken by all)*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY:

“Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding”

345



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! “Christ is
 2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
 3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
 4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near,” we hear it say. “Cast a - way the
 earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
 par - don down from heav’n. Let us haste, with
 world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
 Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!”
 sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
 tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv’n;
 with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
 liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON: *“Joyful Patience”*

OFFERING: *(as the offerings are being gathered to glorify our Lord, please sign and pass the red attendance booklet found in the pew)*

***OFFERTORY**

Psalm 51:10-12



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -



tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

***PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

***PREFACE**

P: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22



☐ And with thy spir - it.

P: Lift up your hearts.

[Colossians 3:1]



☐ We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

[Psalm 136]



☐ It is meet and right so to do.

P: It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

***SANCTUS ~ Holy, Holy, Holy**

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



☐ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER:** *(spoken by all)*

Matthew 6:9-13

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

***THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

***PAX DOMINI** *≈ The Peace of the Lord*

John 20:19

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



☐ A - men.

***AGNUS DEI** *≈ Lamb of God*

John 1:29

Musical notation for Agnus Dei, consisting of four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), G4 (half), A4 (half). The lyrics are: O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. A fermata is placed over the final G4 note.

☐ O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.



world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

After singing "The Agnus Dei," the congregation may be seated.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"Comfort, Comfort Ye My People"

347



1 "Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace," thus
2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each
3 Hark, the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert
4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er



saith our God; "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn - ing
dark mis - deed; All that well de - served His an - ger He no
far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance, Since the
plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be -



'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem
more will see or heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day,
King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!
fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord



Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her
Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her
Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys
Now o'er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall



sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver."
pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.
rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.
see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

"Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come"

350



1 Come, Thou pre - cious Ran - som, come, On - ly hope for
2 En - ter now my wait - ing heart, Glo - rious King and
3 My ho - san - nas and my palms Gra - cious - ly re -
4 Hail! Ho - san - na, Da - vid's Son! Je - sus, hear our



sin - ful mor - tals! Come, O Sav - ior of the world!
Lord most ho - ly. Dwell in me and ne'er de - part,
ceive, I pray Thee; Ev - er - more, as best I can,
sup - pli - ca - tion! Let Thy king - dom, scep - ter, crown,



O - pen are to Thee all por - tals. Come, Thy beau - ty
Though I am but poor and low - ly. Ah, what rich - es
Sav - ior, I will hom - age pay Thee, And in faith I
Bring us bless - ing and sal - va - tion, That for - ev - er



let us see; Anx - ious - ly we wait for Thee.
will be mine When Thou art my guest di - vine!
will em - brace, Lord, Thy mer - it through Thy grace.
we may sing: Hail! Ho - san - na to our King.

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

621



1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence And with fear and
 2 King of kings yet born of Mar - y, As of old on
 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en Spreads its van - guard
 4 At His feet the six - winged ser - aph, Cher - u - bim with



trem - bling stand; Pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,
 earth He stood, Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture,
 on the way As the Light of Light, de - scend - ing
 sleep - less eye, Veil their fac - es to the pres - ence



For with bless - ing in His hand Christ our God to earth de -
 In the bod - y and the blood, He will give to all the
 From the realms of end - less day, Comes the pow'rs of hell to
 As with cease - less voice they cry: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



scend - ing Comes our hom - age to de - mand.
 faith - ful His own self for heav'n - ly food.
 van - quish As the dark - ness clears a - way.
 lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Text and tune: Public domain

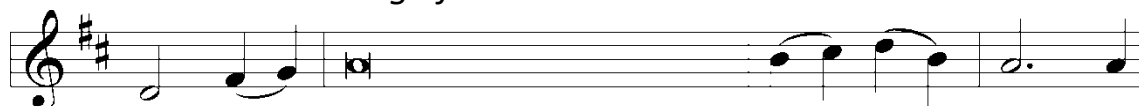
***COMMUNION DISMISSAL**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ☩ in peace.

C: Amen.

***NUNC DIMITTIS** *~ Song of Simeon*

Luke 2:29-32



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
 peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev - er shall be, world with out end. A - men.

***THANKSGIVING**

Psalm 107:1

P: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

☐ and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P: Let us pray. . . . one God, now and forever.

☐ A - men.

***SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS**

P: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

☐ And with thy spir - it.

P: Bless we the Lord.

[Psalm 103:1]

☐ Thanks be to God.

***BENEDICTION**

Numbers 6:24-26

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face Shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



A-men, a-men, a - men.

***CLOSING HYMN:** *"Savior of the Nations Come"*

332



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it
3 Here a maid was found with child, Yet re - mained a
4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and



here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,
of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh—
vir - gin mild. In her womb this truth was shown:
king - ly hall; God of God, yet ful - ly man,



That the Lord chose such a birth.
Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
God was there up - on His throne.
His he - ro - ic course be - gan.

5 God the Father was His source,
Back to God He ran His course.
Into hell His road went down,
Back then to His throne and crown.

6 For You are the Father's Son
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
By Your mighty pow'r make whole
All our ills of flesh and soul.

7 From the manger newborn light
Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides;
In this light faith now abides.

△ 8 Glory to the Father sing,
Glory to the Son, our king,
Glory to the Spirit be
Now and through eternity.

SERVANTS FOR TODAY

Preacher: Pastor Ben Ockree
Liturgist: Deacon Jim LaCrone
Organist: Renee Patzer
Accompanist: Annette Jackson
Choir Director: Anna Reb
Acolyte: Cecilia Humphrey
Elder: Michael Reb
Greeters: Dean Brunkow, Roddy Schwant
Altar Guild: Cheryl Johnson
Ushers: Rick Blush, Bill Arnold, Arlan Myers, A.J. Velasquez
Counters: Grace Pasley, Sharon Dooley
Coffee Maker: Bill Arnold
Mug Detail: Clausen Family

SERVANTS FOR WEDNESDAY ADVENT, DECEMBER 20

Preacher: Pastor Ben Ockree
Organist: Renee Patzer
Acolyte: Carly Simpson
Elder: Tony Zimmerman
Greeters: None assigned
Altar Guild: Sandi Blush
Ushers: John Guffey, T. J. Humphrey, Timothy Humphrey

SERVANTS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

Preacher: Pastor Ben Ockree
Liturgist-9 AM: Deacon Jim LaCrone
Organist: Annette Jackson
Acolyte-9 AM: Cora Russell
Acolyte-4:30 PM: Violet Ockree
Acolyte-7 PM: Evie Guffey
Elder-9 AM: Larry Winter

Elder-4:30 PM: Kirk Johnson
Elder-7 PM: Don Harrison
Altar Guild-9 AM: Cheryl Johnson
Altar-Evening: Sandi Blush
Greeters-9 AM: Tony & Rae Zimmerman
Greeters-4:30 PM: Sue LaCrone, Becky Martin
Greeters-7 PM: Wanda Fay, Cindy Rohnke
Ushers-9 AM: Rick Blush, Bill Arnold, Arlan Myers, A.J. Velasquez
Ushers-Evening: John Guffey, T. J. Humphrey, Timothy Humphrey
Counters: Heather Williams, Tamara Ockree

SERVANTS FOR MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 – 10 AM

Preacher: Pastor Ben Ockree
Organist: Renee Patzer
Acolyte: Elinor Ockree
Elder: Mike Krise
Greeters: Marcia Coufal, Gail Cox
Altar Guild: Sandi Blush
Ushers: John Guffey, T. J. Humphrey, Timothy Humphrey

HOME DEVOTIONAL READING GUIDE: DECEMBER 17 – 23

Zechariah 5 – 11
 Psalm 137 – 143
 Revelation 13 – 18

THIS WEEK IN CALVARY

Today:	Beacon Article Deadline for January	
	Worship Service	9:00 AM
	Adult Confirmation	9:00 AM
	Sunday School Christmas Practice	10:00 AM
	Adult Bible Study	10:15 AM
	Sunday School Christmas Service	5:00 PM
	Monday:	Cornerstone Choir Practice-F. Hall
Tuesday:	College Bible Study-at Iliff's	6:30 PM

Wednesday:	Homeschool Chapel & Classes	11:00 AM
	Advent Supper	5:45 PM
	Confirmation Class	6:00 PM
	Advent Worship Service	7:00 PM
	Choir Practice	8:00 PM
Thursday:	Deadline for 12/24 & 12/31 Announcements	9:00 AM
	Morning Break Bible Study	10:00 AM
Friday:	Hunter's Ridge AA Meeting	7:00 PM
Next Sunday:	Christmas Eve	
	Worship Service	9:00 AM
	Adult Confirmation	9:00 AM
	Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service	4:30 PM
	Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service	7:00 PM
Next Monday:	Christmas Day – Church Office Closed	
	Christmas Day Worship Service	10:00 AM
Next Tuesday:	Church Office Closed for Christmas Holiday	



Calvary is offering you the opportunity to purchase these colorful and festive flowers to grace our Sanctuary this Christmas season.

ORDER FORMS CAN BE FOUND ON THE USHER'S TABLE

Please note the following points when ordering your poinsettia:

1. The cost of each poinsettia is \$10.00 (checks payable to 'Calvary Lutheran Church').
2. The poinsettias contain approximately 10 blooms in a 6 ½ inch pot wrapped in foil.
3. You may indicate a dedication or memorial on the order form in the space provided.
4. Please return the order form and your payment to the church office **by Sunday, December 17.**

(please do not place your order/payment in the collection plate)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

GUESTS AND MEMBERS: A Nursery and a Cry Room are located in the upper north pod if a need arises. Children's Activity Boards are provided in a bin next to the south Sanctuary doors. Large Print Bulletins and Hearing Devices are available – ask one of the ushers for assistance. Please sign the red Attendance Book found in the pew so we can have a record of your attendance with us. Those needing to sit instead of stand should feel free to do so at any time. If you would like to know more about Calvary or are interested in becoming a member, please talk to the pastor or call the church office.

TODAY RIGHT AFTER CHURCH SERVICE we need several helping hands to move everything out of the Crume Room in the basement. There are about 4 tables and quite a few folding chairs in the room. Everything needs to be moved out into the north pod. Any folding tables should be folded and stacked against the east wall. We are getting new flooring installed in the room next Tuesday.

STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFT: We ask that you give by today so we can provide the gift to our staff this week. If you desire to make a monetary gift to our staff for Christmas, please mark an envelope with “**Staff Gift**” and place it in the plate. We are blessed with a great staff at Calvary! Pastor Ockree, Joann LaCrone, and Melissa Mosher (CLLC) need our prayers and personal thanks, especially during this very busy season. God’s blessings to each of us as we prepare to welcome our Lord and Savior this Advent season! – *Board of Elders.*

THE PSALM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS, taught by Boone Smith, will not be held again until Sunday, January 7. We hope to meet downstairs in the Crume Room (lower north pod) when we start class again.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS SERVICE is this evening at 5 PM in the Sanctuary. After the service everyone will be treated to cookies and punch in the north pod. ***It would be wonderful to have strong congregational support for our children and participation*** this evening, so we encourage the congregation to attend!

THIS WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, WILL BE THE LAST MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE. Service will start at 7 PM.

THE FINAL ADVENT SUPPER WILL BE HELD THIS WEDNESDAY and will be served by the Youth Group. The menu will include Sloppy Joes, Potato Chips, Broccoli, and Brownies. Proceeds will be used for youth activities. Serving for confirmation students starts at 5:45 PM, with the congregation following.

PLEASE NOTE – THE BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT DEADLINE FOR BOTH DECEMBER 24 AND 31 will be this coming Wednesday, December 20 at 9 AM due to the church office being closed the entire week of December 25.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR’S WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE:

- Sunday, Dec. 24 – 9:00 AM Worship Service, No Sunday School/Bible Study
- Sunday, Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Services - 4:30 PM and 7:00 PM
- Monday, Dec. 25 – Christmas Day Worship Service – 10:00 AM
- Sunday, Dec. 31 – 9:00 AM Worship, 10:15 AM Sunday School/Bible Study
- Sunday, Dec. 31 - New Year’s Eve Worship Service – 7:00 PM

CALVARY LUTHERAN LEARNING CENTER HAS THE FOLLOWING JOB OPENINGS:

- Part-Time Teacher (covering other teachers/float between classrooms);
- Kitchen Help - 7:30 AM --1:00 PM (serve breakfast and lunch);
- A qualified Director to work with infants through age 4, and a school age summer program. We are looking for a person with a minimum of 2 years’ experience to lead a Christ-center, faith-based program where excellent care and spiritual support is provided for both children and families.

If interested in any of these positions, please contact Janice Sellers at 785-554-6280 or by email at jsellers54@gmail.com.

LIFELINE PREGNANCY CENTER is in need of the following items:

- Diapers: sizes newborn, 3, 4, 5, 6
- Baby Wipes
- Newborn size clothing
- Toddler size clothing, socks, underwear
- Toddler size coats, hats, gloves/mittens
- Infant formula
- Baby Wash and Lotion
- Toddler size shoes/boots
- Toddler size shoes/boots

You can leave these items in the round blue tub under the mailboxes in the Narthex. Thank you!

Prayer Petitions for the Week of December 17-24

- Pray we would be made ready for Christ to come to us this Advent.
- Pray for our Advent midweek services and suppers.
- Pray for our Office Manager Joann.
- Pray for Pastor Ockree and Deacon LaCrone as they serve us.
- For our musicians: Renee, Annette, Anna, the choir and other instrumentalists.
- Pray for our Janitor Sarah.
- Pray for the CLLC: For the teachers and staff there. Pray for a new director.
- Pray for our Youth Christmas Service on December 17.
- Pray for our members (one every day): Greg Larson. Phil & Barb Lawrence. Tim & Debbie Leatherman and family. Sarah Leatherman. Jesse Lee and family. Jeff & Barbara Lewis and family. Karen Lewis.
- Pray for the sick, those undergoing procedures, and those recovering: Deniece Detjen, Loren Johannes, Shiela Jones, Bob Ockree, Cindy Rohnke, Glenn Wehking, Michael Wehking.
- Pray for those with chronic ailments: Vernon Bean, Wendy Humphrey, Ralph Knehans, Kay Foster, Connor Hurd, Shiela Jones, Phil Lawrence, Arleen Marston, Bob Ockree, Juan Alvarez, Abbie Alvarez, Ashton Alvarez, Alijah Alvarez, Teddy Schuh, Pastor Hopkins.
- Pray for our shut-ins: Vernon Bean, Rosella Calderwood, Florence Deutsch, Grace Dienstbier, Karen Dreasher, DonnaRae Eissler, Pete & Kay Foster, Dianne Hatesohl, Shiela Jones, Ralph Knehans, Dick LaCrone, Arleen Marston, Barbara Northcutt, Bob Ockree, Sam & Mary Randol, Sally Short, and Ron Stuewe.
- Pray for the work of the strategic planning committee as it takes up the task of providing faithful guidance for all at Calvary.
- Pray for Calvary: That we would grow in the Word and for our Sunday morning classes, youth group, the young adults' class, Being Christian, Morning Break. For women's and men's groups, OWLS, Prayers & Stitching.
- Pray for confirmands: Evelyn Guffey, Cecelia Humphrey, Violet Ockree, Cora Russell, Brody Boyd, Anabelle Clausen, Abriella Guenther, Sophia Humphrey, Chloe Keehn, Lilly Ketchum, Elinor Ockree, Jack Williams, Jace Carter, Laithen Paulsen, Carly Simpson, Duval Thieme.
- Pray for our missions and ministry: Topeka North Outreach, West Africa Mission, Lifeline Pregnancy Center. Our Stephen Ministers.
- Pray for generosity that we would be able to support and grow God's mission here at Calvary.

- Pray for those celebrating birthdays this week: Bob Schuh, Jacob Ensley, Jane Wise, Ashton Alvarez, Carol Buchanan, Lori Crawford, Jonathan Kobuszewski.

Pray the Lord's Prayer and say the Creed daily, using a devotional resource.

Sunday: Pray for worship: Pray that we would rejoice in the coming of our King. Give thanks for the blessings of Word and Sacrament. Give thanks for our fellowship and blessings in continued unity. Pray that God bless Calvary and her people both physically and spiritually.

Monday: Pray for the whole Church: For those who suffer for their faith. For the Synod & President Harrison. For the Kansas District & President Panzer. For our circuit & Visitor Kilgo. For the saints at Faith, Pastors Heine & Albrecht, Vicar Jeff Lane, and DCEs Heather McCormick & Hannah Elsey. For the saints of Risen Savior, Basehor, Pastor Weinkauf, and their Classical Academy.

Tuesday: Pray for our society: For our government, President Biden, governor Kelly, and local leaders. For those in need, the unemployed, the poor, the hungry, and the helpless. Pray especially for those who serve in healthcare. For help in a troubled world. For an end to the war in the Ukraine and the war between Israel and Gaza. For an end to gun violence. For those afflicted by bad weather and other disasters. For an end to abortion, exploitation, and all evils in the world. For the truth of God to guide us over the lies of Satan.

Wednesday: Pray for our witness: That we would give testify to Christ in what we say and do. That Christ's light would shine in our lives, and we would forgive as we are forgiven. That we would always speak the Truth in love. For God to grow His Church here at Calvary.

Thursday: Pray for thankfulness: That we would count our blessings casting aside anxiety, fear, and doubt. Pray for a loving heart for those in need and for a generous heart to help as we can, that we may be a blessing to others. For the homeless, the widowed, orphans, the immigrant, and the stranger among us, especially those from Ukraine in our midst. For the afflicted and suffering.

Friday: Pray for Calvary: Our faith, unity, love, and fellowship. That more would join our fellowship and our love would be evident to all who visit. For generosity to support and grow God's purpose among us. For our Finance Board and all that they do.

Saturday: Pray for our vocations: For blessing and joy in our duties. For husbands & wives, parents & children. For those who live alone. For the unemployed and underemployed. For employers looking for workers. For those struggling financially and facing instability. For those who are homeless and lack other necessities of life. Pray especially for our first responders

**The Lord almighty bless ✠ us and
direct our days and our deeds in His peace.**

To place announcements or prayer concerns in the Sunday bulletin contact the church office by 9 AM on Thursdays. Prayer concerns printed in the bulletin do not replace prayer chain requests. To place a prayer chain request during evening and weekend hours please call Leila Schuh at 224-7962; during week days call or email the Church Office.

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH & LEARNING CENTER

Church Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Sunday Worship Service: 9:00 AM

(All Worship Services are live-streamed on Facebook)

Sunday School and Adult Bible Class: 10:15 AM

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bockree@calvarytopeka.org

Office Manager: Joann LaCrone

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