



“This Child is appointed for the rising  
and falling of many in Israel.”

***FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS***

**December 31, 2023**

**Calvary Lutheran Church**

**Topeka, Kansas**

**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 FIVE**

**Lutheran Service Book P. 213–218**

*\*Indicates to Stand*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND \*OPENING PRAYER**

**OPENING HYMN: "Angels From the Realms of Glory" # 367**



1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er  
 2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your  
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions  
 4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in  
 5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,



all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,  
 flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,  
 beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,  
 hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,  
 Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing

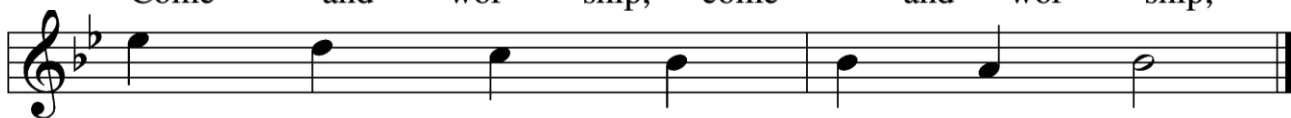


Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.  
 Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.  
 Ye have seen His na - tal star.  
 In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.  
 To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

*Refrain*



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;



Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

**\*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

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

**C: Amen.**

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.

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

**C: who made heaven and earth.**

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

**C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*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.**

**\*INTROIT:** Psalm 93:5, 2, 1, 3–4

P: Your decrees are very trustworthy;

**C: holiness befits your house, O LORD, forevermore.**

P: Your throne is established from of old;

**C: you are from everlasting.**

P: The LORD reigns; he is robed in majesty;

**C: the LORD is robed; he has put on strength as his belt.**

P: Yes, the world is established;

**C: it shall never be moved.**

P: The floods have lifted up, O LORD, the floods have lifted up their voice;

**C: the floods lift up their roaring.**

P: Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea,

C: the LORD on high is mighty!

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**\*KYRIE: "Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising" # 375 vss. 2 & 4**

2 Christ, from heav'n to us de - scend - ing And in  
4 From the bon - dage th - at op - pressed us, Fr - om sin's  
love our race be - friend - ing; In our need His help ex -  
Fet - ters th - at pos - sessed us, From the grief that sore dis -  
tend - ing, Saved us from the wi - ly foe.  
tressed us, We, the ca - p - tives, n - ow are free.

**\*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS: "Angels We Have Heard on High" # 368**

1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;  
And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.  
*Refrain*  
Glo - ri - a  
in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - ri - a  
ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

**\*SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. . .

**C: Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING:** Isaiah 11:1-5

P: There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL:** Psalm 45:2a, 1b

P: You are the most handsome of the sons of men;

**C: grace is poured upon your lips.**

P: I address my verses to the king;

**C: my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.**

**EPISTLE READING:** Galatians 4:1-7

P: I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons,

God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*HOLY GOSPEL:** Luke 2:22-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

P: And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed." And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem. And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, 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: *"Let All Together Praise Our God"* # 389



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His  
 2 He leaves His heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an  
 3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre -  
 4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our



glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To  
 in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies  
 at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The  
 hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His



give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.  
 in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.  
 splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.  
 glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.

5 He is a servant, I a lord:  
 How great a mystery!  
 How strong the tender Christ Child's love!  
 No truer friend than He,  
 No truer friend than He.

6 He is the key and He the door  
 To blessèd paradise;  
 The angel bars the way no more.  
 To God our praises rise,  
 To God our praises rise.

△7 Your grace in lowliness revealed,  
 Lord Jesus, we adore  
 And praise to God the Father yield  
 And Spirit evermore;  
 We praise You evermore.

Text (st. 2) and tune: Public domain. Text (sts. 1, 3-7): © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002198

SERMON: *"Rising and Falling"*

**\*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:** *(Responses shown below)*

P. 215

P: Lord in Your Mercy,

C: **Hear Our Prayer.**

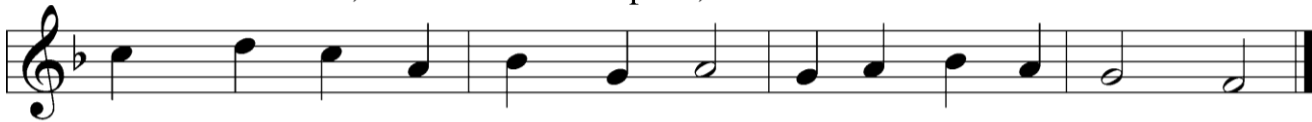
**OFFERING:** *(as the offerings are being gathered to glorify our Lord, please sign and pass the red attendance booklet found in the pew)*

**\*OFFERTORY:** *"Let Us All with Gladsome Voice"*

**# 390 vss. 1, 3**



1 Let us all with glad-some voice Praise the God of heav - en,  
3 We are rich, for He was poor; Is not this a won - der?



Who, to bid our hearts re - joice, His own Son hath giv - en.  
There-fore praise God ev - er - more Here on earth and yon - der.

Text and tune: Public domain

**\*PREFACE**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising you and saying:

C: **Amen.**

**\*SANCTUS:** *"Angels from the Realms of Glory"*

**# 367 vss. 4-5**



4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in  
5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,



hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,  
Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing



In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.  
To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

*Refrain*

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;  
Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

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

**C:** 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**

**\*PAX DOMINI**

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

**C:** Amen.

**\*AGNUS DEI:** *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"* **# 361 v. 4**

4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.  
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;  
O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

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

## COMMUNION HYMNS

### "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child"

# 374



1 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;  
 2 An - gels sang a - bout His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;  
 3 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;



There He lay, the Un - de - filed, To the world a strang - er.  
 Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth Glo - ry all a - round Him.  
 He is still the Un - de - filed But no more a strang - er.



Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Sav - ior?  
 Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing;  
 Son of God of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;



Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa - vor.  
 All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring - ing.  
 Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glo - ry!

Tune and text: Public domain

### "It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

# 366



1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, That glo - rious song of old,  
 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come With peace - ful wings un - furled,  
 3 All you, be - neath your heav - y load, By care and guilt bent low,  
 4 For lo, the days have come to pass By proph - ets seen of old,



From an - gels bend - ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:  
 And still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats O'er all the wea - ry world.  
 Who toil a - long a drea - ry way With pain - ful steps and slow:  
 When down in - to the cir - cling years Came Christ as was fore - told.



"Peace on the earth, good - will to all, From heav'n's all - gra - cious king."  
 A - bove its sad and low - ly plains They bend on hov - 'ring wing,  
 Look up, for gold - en is the hour, Come swift - ly on the wing,  
 His word of peace shall to the earth God's an - cient prom - ise bring,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay To hear the an - gels sing.  
 And ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds The bless - ed an - gels sing.  
 The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of Him the an - gels sing.  
 And all who take this gift will hear The song the an - gels sing.

Text and tune: Public domain

*"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"*

# 393



1 In - fant ho - ly, In - fant low - ly, For His bed a cat - tle stall;  
 2 Flocks were sleep - ing, Shep - herds keep - ing Vig - il till the morn - ing new



Ox - en low - ing, Lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.  
 Saw the glo - ry, Heard the sto - ry, Tid - ings of a Gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, An - gels sing - ing, Bells are ring - ing, Tid - ings bring - ing:  
 Thus re - joic - ing, Free from sor - row, Prais - es voic - ing, Greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!  
 Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Text and tune: Public domain

**\*POST-COMMUNION HYMN: "On Christmas Night All Christians Sing" # 377**

**vss. 3-4**



3 When sin de - parts be - fore His grace, Then life and health come  
 4 All out of dark - ness we have light, Which made the an - gels



in its place, When sin de - parts be - fore His grace, Then  
 sing this night, All out of dark - ness we have light, Which



life and health come in its place; An - gels and men with joy may  
made the an - gels sing this night: "Glo - ry to God and peace to



sing, All for to see the new - born King.  
men Now and for - ev - er - more. A - men."

**\*POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

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

C: Amen.

**\*BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION**

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✕ give you peace.

C: Amen.

**\*CLOSING HYMN:**

*"O Sing of Christ"*

**# 362**



1 O sing of Christ, whose birth made known The kind-ness of the Lord,  
2 What Ad-am lost, none could re - claim, And Par - a - dise was barred  
3 He came to that which was His own, But He was not re - ceived;  
4 Lord Je - sus Christ, You deigned to dwell A - mong us here on earth



E - ter - nal Word made flesh and bone So we could be re - stored.  
Un - til the sec - ond Ad - am came To mend what sin had marred.  
Yet still through Him God's glo - ry shone, And some His name be - lieved.  
As God with us, Em - man - u - el, To bring this ho - ly birth.



Up - on our frail hu - man - i - ty God's fin - ger chose to trace  
For when the time was full and right God sent His on - ly Son;  
To these He gave the right to be The heirs of heav'n a - bove,  
Though rich, You will - ing - ly be - came One with our pov - er - ty,



The full-ness of His de - i - ty, The i - con of His grace.  
 He came to us as life and light And our re - demp-tion won.  
 Born not of hu - man an - ces - try But born of God in love.  
 That we might share Your wealth and name For all e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: © 1996 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002198. Tune: Public domain

**SERVANTS FOR TODAY**

- Preacher:** Pastor Ben Ockree
- Liturgy-9 AM:** Deacon Jim LaCrone
- Organ:** Renee Patzer
- Violin-9 AM:** Rebekah Ollek, Laura Ollek, Kenya Patzer
- Violin:-7 PM:** Kenya Patzer
- Acolyte-9 AM:** Lily Ketchum
- Acolyte-7 PM:** Cecilia Humphrey
- Elder-9 AM:** Michael Reb
- Elder-7 PM:** Tony Zimmerman
- Altar Guild-9 AM:** Cheryl Johnson
- Altar-Guild-7 PM:** Sandi Blush
- Greeters-9 AM:** Dean Brunkow, Roddy Schwant
- Greeters-7 PM:** Connor Ockree, Mike Ewing
- Ushers-9 AM:** Rick Blush, Bill Arnold, Arlan Myers, A.J. Velasquez
- Ushers-7 PM:** John Guffey, T. J. Humphrey, Timothy Humphrey
- Counters:** Rick & Sandi Blush
- Coffee Maker:** Bill Arnold
- Mug Detail:** Mary North, Kathy Kalinka

**THIS WEEK IN CALVARY**

- Today:**
  - New Year’s Eve
  - Worship Service 9:00 AM
  - Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:15 AM
  - New Year’s Eve Worship Service 7:00 PM
- Monday:** New Year’s Day – Church Office Closed

<b>Wednesday:</b>	Confirmation Class	6:00 PM
<b>Thursday:</b>	Bulletin Announcement Deadline	9:00 AM
	Morning Break Bible Study	10:00 AM
	Board of Elders Meeting	7:00 PM
<b>Friday</b>	Hunter's Ridge AA Meeting	7:00 PM
<b>Saturday:</b>	Cornerstone Musical Audition-Crume Rm.	9:00 AM
	Ladies Brunch-F. Hall	10:00 AM
	Cornerstone Musical Audition-F. Hall	Noon
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Worship Service	9:00 AM
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:15 AM

### SERVANTS FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

<b>Preacher:</b>	Pastor Ben Ockree
<b>Liturgist:</b>	Deacon Jim LaCrone
<b>Organist:</b>	Renee Patzer
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Jace Carter
<b>Elder:</b>	Larry Winter
<b>Greeters:</b>	Tony & Rae Zimmerman
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	TBA
<b>Ushers:</b>	Stuart Bach, Rae Zimmerman, Connor Ockree, Mike Ewing
<b>Counters:</b>	Don & Linda Harrison
<b>Coffee Maker:</b>	Larry & Bonnie Winter
<b>Mug Detail:</b>	Larry & Bonnie Winter

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*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 privately with the pastor before the service.*

**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 put the tables and chairs back in the Crume Room in the basement. The painting and new flooring have been done. There are 5 tables and some red chairs to be put back in the room. The folding chairs should be put on the chair cart and taken back to the Fellowship Hall. While you're there, take a minute to look at the new flooring!

**PLEASE NOTE – THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED THIS ENTIRE WEEK.** We will be off work for the Christmas holiday on Monday and Tuesday. Joann will be off work for surgery and Pastor is taking a couple extra days off. If you have a need for emergency pastoral assistance, please text or call Pastor Ockree at 913-674-1051. We will return to the office on Tuesday, January 2.

**CHRISTMAS NEW YEAR'S WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE:**

- 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

**J.O.Y. POTLUCK & BINGO** will not be held this week. We will meet again on Tuesday, January 23 at 11:30 AM.

**CALVARY LUTHERAN LEARNING CENTER HAS THE FOLLOWING JOB OPENINGS:**

- Part-Time Teacher (to cover 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](mailto: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!

*To place announcements or prayer concerns in next Sunday's 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 785-224-7962; during week days call the Church Office.*

**2023 POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS**



<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Dedication</u></b>
☼ Kathy, Anna & Michael Reb.....	In memory Mike Reb.
☼ Kathy, Anna & Michael Reb and Allan & Kerye Jackson.....	In memory of Harley & Ellen Jackson.
☼ Tim & Debbie Leatherman.....	In memory of Bethany Leatherman, Karl & Louise Kertz (Debbie's parents), and Wayne & Marian Leatherman (Tim's parents).
☼ Kim Piercy .....	In memory of Travis and Barbara Piercy.
☼ Don & Linda Harrison.....	In memory of our parents, Melvin & Charlotte



Deiter and Gene & Irene Harrison.

- ✿ Don & Linda Harrison.....Dedicated to our children and grandchildren.
- ✿ Dave & Annette Jackson.....In memory of Dave's parents, Dwight & Janice Jackson.
- ✿ Dave & Annette Jackson.....In memory of Annette's parents, Harry & Geneva Sorber.
- ✿ Kathryn Kalinka.....In memory of Richard Groves, my dad.
- ✿ Kathryn Kalinka.....Dedicated to Mary Groves, my mom who continues to be a light in my life.
- ✿ Mike & Renee Patzer.....In memory of William & Dorothy Hintz.
- ✿ Mike & Renee Patzer.....In memory of Richard & Ella Patzer.
- ✿ Kirk & Cheryl Johnson.....In memory of Wendel & Georgia Sales.
- ✿ Kirk & Cheryl Johnson.....Dedicated in thanksgiving for our children and grandchildren.
- ✿ Bill Arnold.....In memory of Diana Arnold.
- ✿ Jean & Kathi Killman.....In memory of Larry Killman.
- ✿ Tony & Rae Zimmerman.....In memory of Bob & Ruth Zimmerman.
- ✿ Gary & Robin Schultz.....In memory of Jim Harney and Mr. & Mrs. John McConnell.
- ✿ Rick & Sandi Blush.....In memory of our parents, Elmer & Lucille Stolzer and Edgar & Ruth Blush.
- ✿ Jim & Joann LaCrone.....Dedicated to our children & grandchildren.
- ✿ Jim & Joann LaCrone.....In memory of our grandparents, parents, and siblings who have gone before us.
- ✿ The Diekhoff Family.....In memory of Janet Diekhoff.
- ✿ Mary North.....In memory of my husband Harold.
- ✿ Mike & Karen Lietz.....In memory of our parents George & Inez Lietz and Don & Lucille Givens.
- ✿ The Bach, Williams & Matheny families.....In memory of our mother & grandmother, Karen Bach.
- ✿ The Bach, Williams & Matheny families.....In memory of our grandparents, Junior & Donna Pflieger.
- ✿ The Bach, Williams & Matheny families.....In memory of our mother, Sherri Pflieger.

✿The Williams Family.....In memory of our grandfather, Elson Grim.

### **Prayer Petitions for the Week of December 31-January 6**

- Pray that our celebration of Christ's birth would continue.
- Pray for New Year's Eve service and a blessed New Year.
- Pray for a blessed Epiphany.
- 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 members (one every day): Carol McKittrick. Dan & Kelly McPheron. Larry Miller. Arlan & Peggy Myers. Logan Nixon, Mary North. Barb Northcutt.
- Pray for the sick, those undergoing procedures, and those recovering: Deniece Detjen, Loren Johannes, Shiela Jones, Joann LaCrone, 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, 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: Brennan Smith, Ethan Wurtz.

**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 Immanuel and Pastor Wehling. For the saints of St. Andrews, Pastor Boehlke.

**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 Education 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 teachers and students.

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

**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

4211 NW Topeka Blvd.

Topeka, KS 66617

Church Phone: 785-286-1431

Church Email: [calvarylcms@calvarytopeka.org](mailto:calvarylcms@calvarytopeka.org)

Church Website: [www.calvarytopeka.org](http://www.calvarytopeka.org)

Pastor: Rev. Ben Ockree

[bockree@calvarytopeka.org](mailto:bockree@calvarytopeka.org)

Office Manager: Joann LaCrone

[secretary@calvarytopeka.org](mailto:secretary@calvarytopeka.org)

CLLC Phone: 785-783-2121

CLLC Email: [cllctopekadirector@gmail.com](mailto:cllctopekadirector@gmail.com)

CLLC Website: [www.cllctopeka.com](http://www.cllctopeka.com)