CALVARY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Chandler, Arizona † May 11 & 12, 2024 † Easter 7

Welcome. At Calvary, our worship is designed to praise God and enrich faith. We aim to make the service clear and appropriately reverent. For your convenience, the service is printed in its entirety in your bulletin. Please do sign the connection cards in the pews or the guest book by the entryway so that we know you were here in case we didn't get to say hello. Feel free to ask Pastor Spaude, Pastor Sprain, or Mr. Kuether any questions you may have or go to our website, calvarychandler.net

Bring the kids. Our congregation enjoys the worshipping family. Please sit in any pew where you feel comfortable. We do have a message specifically for the children Sunday Morning during worship.

May we suggest: Quietly explain the worship service as it takes place. Share with your children the "why" of what they are hearing. Sing the hymns, pray the prayers etc. Children learn behavior by mimicking you. And please remember, if you have to leave the sanctuary (the cry room is located in the back of church) with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. For Jesus said: "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14

To our Calvary Family, the presence of children is a gift to the Church, and they remind us that our church is growing. Give a smile and warm encouragement to them and their families.

Don't feel obligated. Our members give offerings to the Lord as an expression of our thanks and praise for his amazing love! Visitors, please know you are not expected or required to give an offering. It is completely your choice. We are just glad you are here! **Make yourself at home.** After the service, we join together for coffee, snacks and conversation. We would be honored if you'd join us.

For those who have hearing issues our sound system allows for you to engage the "T" setting on your hearing aid. There are also hearing devices available. Ask an usher.

SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY

Our Lord promises that one day soon he will take us to a better world. Until then he empowers us to live lives of love for others to his glory and honor.

SERVICE OF THE WORD





Text: Elvina M. Hall, 1820–1889 Tune: John T. Grape, 1835–1915 Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

P: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

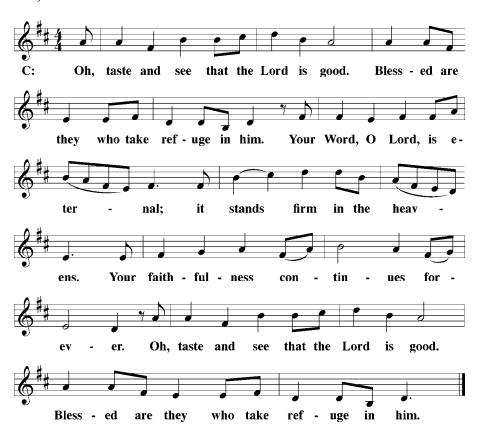
P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

OH, TASTE AND SEE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, your Son our Savior was taken up in glory and intercedes for us at your right hand. Through your living and abiding Word, give us hearts to know him and faith to follow where he has gone; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



FIRST LESSON

Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60

In those days, as the number of disciples was increasing, a complaint arose from the Greek-speaking Jews against the Hebrew-speaking Jews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.

So the Twelve called together the whole group of disciples and said, "It is not right for us to neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. Brothers, carefully select from among you seven men with good reputations, who are full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom. We will put them in charge of this service. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and the ministry of the word."

This proposal pleased the entire group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicholas, a proselyte from Antioch.

They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of God kept on spreading, and the number of disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly. Also a large group of priests became obedient to the faith.

Now Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and miraculous signs among the people. ⁹Some men who were from what is called the Synagogue of the Freedmen (Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and some from Cilicia and Asia) rose up and disputed with Stephen.

Stephen said, "Gentlemen, brothers and fathers, listen!

"You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit! You are doing just what your fathers did. Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? They killed those who prophesied the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers—you who received the law as transmitted by angels, but did not keep it."

When they heard these things, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed up into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. He said, "Look, I see heaven opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

Simply for proclaiming Christ, the Sanhedrin wanted to kill Stephen. Christ used their murderous intent to enable Stephen to overcome this broken world.

But they screamed at the top of their voices, covered their ears, and rushed at him with one purpose in mind. They threw him out of the city and stoned him. The witnesses laid their cloaks at the feet of a young man named Saul.

While they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" Then he fell to his knees and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." After he said this, he fell asleep.

PSALM 133-134

Psalm 133-134: In these two Psalms the Lord commends the unity that believers have and calls the temple's night watchmen to prayer and praise.





How good and pleasant it is* when brothers live together in unity!

For there the LORD bestows his <u>blessing</u>,* even life forevermore.

Refrain

Praise the LORD, all you servants of the LORD* who minister in the house of the LORD.

Lift up your hands in the sanctu<u>ary</u>* and <u>praise</u> the LORD.

May the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth,* bless you from Zion.

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.

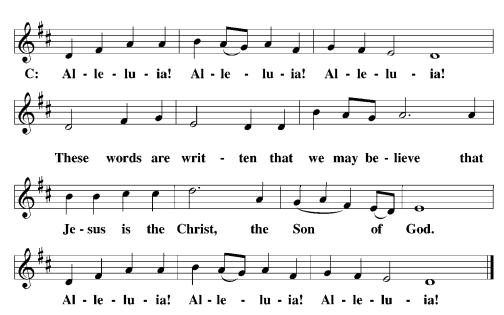
Refrain

SECOND LESSON 1 John 5:1–6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the God who has given birth also loves one who has been born of him. ²This is how we know that we love the children of God: when we love God and keep his commands. In fact, this is love for God: that we keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, because everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world: our faith. Who is the one who overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

This is the one who came by water and blood: Jesus Christ. He did not come by the water alone but by the water and by the blood. The Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

VERSE OF THE DAY



GOSPEL John 15:9-17

"As the Father has loved me, so also I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you hold on to my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have held on to my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you these things so that my joy would continue to be in you and that your joy would be complete.

John
explains that
everyone
born of God
overcomes
the world.

The living Lord gives us this command: Remain in his love so that we might also love each other.

"This is my command: Love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this: that someone lays down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you continue to do the things I instruct you. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know what his master is doing. But I have called you friends, because everything that I heard from my Father, I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will endure, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. These things I am instructing you, so that you love one another."

Scripture readings are taken from The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV) Copyright © 2019 The Wartburg Project, All Rights Reserved (www.wartburgproject.org)

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (Sunday Morning)

life, my health, my wealth,

Children are invited to come forward to the altar area for the children's sermon at this time. (Parents can come with their children if the children are hesitant to go by themselves.)

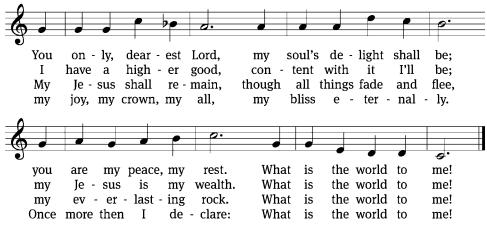


my



my friend, my love, my

plea - sure,



Text: tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.; Georg M. Pfefferkorn, 1645-1732, abr. Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629-1701

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

John 15:9-17 One Thing Leads to Another!

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

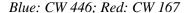
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

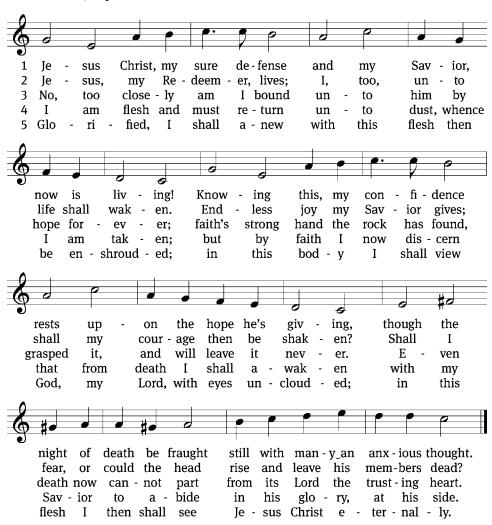
OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

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.





Text: Otto von Schwerin, 1616–1679; (sts. 1–3): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (st. 4): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941,; (st. 5): tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book, 1912, alt.

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text and tune: Public domain

PRAYER

P: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want Us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.



Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Blue: CW 839; Red: CW 389



- 1 Rock of A ges, cleft for me, let me hide my self in thee;
- 2 Not the la-bors of my hands can ful-fill thy law's de-mands;
- 3 Noth-ing in my hand I bring, sim ply to thy cross I cling;
- 4 While I draw this fleet-ing breath, when mine eye lids close in death,



let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed, could my zeal no res-pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow, na - ked, come to thee for dress, help-less, look to thee for grace; when I soar to worlds un-known, see thee on thy judg-ment throne,



be of sin the dou-ble cure: cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r. all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save and thou a - lone. foul, I to the foun-tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die. Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–1778, alt. Tune: Thomas Hastings, 1784–1872 Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.TM Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.

Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mentoring a Returning Citizen Outreach: Are you hurting emotionally, recently returning from incarceration or new in recovery, and would benefit from walking through difficult times with a Christian mentor? You can prayerfully consider the Mentoring a Returning Citizen Program. This program is a free mentorship program sponsored by WELS congregations. For more information for you or someone you know, please contact Pastor Ruppel at pastrup@hotmail.com or (509) 899-5018.

The altar committee is in need of more volunteers. We need someone to help with the cleanup and refilling of the communion ware on Saturday evenings after the service and someone to help with the cleanup on Sundays. If you are interested in helping or want to know what is required, please contact Tammy Armbruster @ 480-258-0282 or Pam Abbe @ 480-434-1163.

<u>The book club</u> will meet on May 26th at 3PM. We are reading "The Dictionary of Lost Words: A Novel" by Pip Williams. Set during the height of the women's suffrage movement and with the Great War looming, *The Dictionary of Lost Words* reveals a lost narrative, hidden between the lines of a history written by men. Inspired by actual events, author Pip Williams has delved into the archives of the *Oxford English Dictionary* to tell this highly original story. *The Dictionary of Lost Words* is a delightful, lyrical, and deeply thought-provoking celebration of words and the power of language to shape the world. All are welcome. For additional information, please contact Kris Powell at swrklog@hotmail.com or Hilda Kuether at Offkue@yahoo.com. Hope to see you there!

The WELS Youth Rally will be held at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado this summer, June 25th-28th. A number of our Christ Teens are going to this rally. The cost for travel, registration, food, and lodging is about \$500.00 per person. To help defray the cost for them, the church council has set up the door collections on the opening weekends of April, May and June to help with this. So instead of having door collections for the Parish Assistance Fund those months, we will be asking for donations to the Youth rally. Any and all help will be greatly appreciated.

<u>Vacation Bible School</u> will be Monday through Friday, June 17th – 21st 9AM to 11:30AM. The families will be invited to attend worship on Sunday June 23rd and the children will sing a song they learned during the week. The theme for this year will be "Build on the Rock" from a series published by our church's publishing house (NPH). We look forward to the opportunity to help our parents strengthen the faith of their children and also share God's Word with families outside our congregation.

<u>The Wednesday night Bible Class</u> meets at 7PM. We are continuing the study of the Gospel of Matthew.

<u>Aluminum Can donation bin</u> is located behind the trash dumpsters. All proceeds go to the Ladies Guild.

<u>A NEW Refreshment Schedule sign-up</u> is now on the back counter for the months May through August. Please sign up for a date! Thank you!

This past week at Calvary:

40 worshipped in the Saturday service and 97 worshipped in the Sunday service.

\$4,670 was given for the work of the Lord. Included in this, \$342 for Parish Assistance and \$400 for Missions.

Pastor: Martin Spaude **Organist:** Jean Wynia

Head Usher: James Schroeder

Ushers: Mike Hoover, Rodney Rasmussen, Laramie Rasmussen, Kylan

Rasmussen