

*CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH*  
TOGETHER IN CHRIST  
EMPOWERED TO BE AND MAKE DISCIPLES

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
SUNDAY  
DECEMBER 8, 2019  
8:00 AM

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#### Introduction to the day

At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the

approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.

Prelude: Vicar David Severtson

## Gathering

Confession and Forgiveness

Gathering Song: *Blessed Be the God of Israel* (ELW 250)

### The Advent Wreath

Blessed are you, God of hope, for you promise to bring forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse who will bring justice to the poor, who will deliver the needy and crush the oppressor, who will stand as a signal of hope for all people.

As we light these candles, turn our wills to bear the fruit of repentance, transform our hearts to live in justice and harmony with one another, and fix our eyes on the root of Jesse, Jesus Christ, the hope of all nations.

O people of hope, come,

**let us rejoice in the faithfulness of the Lord. Amen.**

### Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Canticle: *Light Dawns on a Weary World* (ELW 726 verse 2)

Prayer of the Day

**Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## **Word**

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10 (GNT p. 818)

Psalm: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 (GNT p. 691)

Gospel Acclamation (ELW p. 102)

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12 (GNT p. 1133)

Sermon: Snakes and Fruit    Pastor Naomi Mahler

Hymn of the Day: *He Came Down* (ELW 253)

Creed, Prayers of Intercession, Peace (ELW p. 105)

## **Meal**

Special Music: *Were You There on that Christmas Night?* Karen Loge

Offering: *In the Bleak Midwinter* (ELW 294 verse 3)

Offering Prayer, Thanksgiving at the Table

Lord's Prayer (ELW p. 112)

Songs during Communion:

*Lamb of God* (ELW p. 112)

*Wait for the Lord* (ELW 262)

*Come Now, O Prince of Peace* (ELW 247)

Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

## **Sending**

Announcements and Blessing

Sending Song: *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry* (ELW 249)

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**IN CHRIST'S NAME  
WELCOME TO CALVARY**

**KIDS CORNER** is a place where you can find kid-friendly items to use during Worship. It is located in the Narthex next to the coat room.

**CALVARY'S PRAYERGROUND** is located in the back of the Sanctuary. This area is designated for quiet play for children together with their parents.

**CALVARY'S NURSERY** is located on the west side of the Sanctuary and is available for your use. A nursing lounge is available in the Prayer Room located on the north end of Bethany Hall (in the basement).

**KNOWN HOSPITALIZED**

Susan Smith, Kelly Welch, Rice.

**THE RADIO BROADCAST ON DEC. 1**

Was in memory of Howie Swenson whose passed away November 30, 2013. Given by Barb & Steve Swenson.

**GIVING TREE REMINDER**

Tuesday, December 10 will be the final day to bring your Giving Tree gifts to the office, where they will be distributed to the recipients. Please remember to attach the colored ornament to the gift bag. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Social Concerns Committee

**POINSETTIAS** If you would like to order a poinsettia plant in memory or in honor of a loved one for the Christmas season, please do so by **December 16**. Order forms are available at the Welcome Center and the cost is \$10.00.

**SR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP** Join us tonight at 6:30 PM to go Giving Tree Shopping. We'll shop for any remaining gifts and wrap them. Help make someone Christmas a little brighter!

**CHILDREN'S CALENDAR:**

Sunday, December 8

9:05 AM – Sunday School with Christmas Program rehearsal.

Friday, December 13

6:00-7:30 PM – Dance rehearsal in Bethany Hall.

Saturday, December 14

10:00-11:00 AM – Christmas Program rehearsal for children in Grades 1-6 in the sanctuary.

Sunday, December 15

9:05 AM – Sunday School with Christmas Program rehearsal.

10:15 AM – Christmas Program during worship for children Ages 3 yrs.- Kindergarten.

4:00 PM– "Christmas at Calvary".

Children in Grades 1-6 lead the Program.

**CONFIRMATION SUMMER CAMP!**

Confirmation students are reminded that the \$50 deposit for summer camp is due. We will be going to Camp House on June 21-26. Scholarships are available. If you have questions or need more info see Pastor Naomi.

**CALVARY BELLS** will meet on Monday, December 9 at 5:45 PM in the Choir Room. We are getting ready to play during the Christmas season. Have any questions, please contact Jean Berg at 235-8153.

**4TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAKING, LUNCH & FELLOWSHIP** Do you love Christmas cookies, but don't need many of each kind? Come to Calvary's kitchen and we'll bake together this Thursday, **December 12**, from 10:00 AM-2:00 PM. All ingredients will be provided and lunch will be served. Come for an hour or two or stay the day!

## **WEDNESDAYS**

### **CREATIVE HEART 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM**

#### **DECEMBER 11 & 18**

Calling all singers of ALL ages! We will celebrate the art of singing with our seasonal choir! Children, youth and adults are all invited to join us as a part of Creative Heart as we get ready for the Christmas program on December 15 and Christmas Eve. 6<sup>th</sup> grade to adults meet in the upstairs Choir Room. Children grades 1-5 meet in the Chapel.

### **DINNER CHURCH 6:00 PM–7:00 PM**

Gather with friends – new and old to worship and eat together. All ages are welcome! A donation of \$6/ person for the food is suggested, but pay what you can. All are welcome regardless of ability to pay. Meets in Bethany Hall.

## **WEDNESDAY ADULT EDUCATION**

### **DECEMBER 11**

Adults are invited to join the Confirmation class to learn about the 10 Commandments with Pastor Tim.

## **CHRISTMAS AT CALVARY:**

### **A Light in the Darkness – Art Show, Program and Dinner**

December 15 at 4:00 PM, in the sanctuary, you are invited to come hear our Sunday School Children, choirs, a brass ensemble and other special music in a special celebration of the season. Prepare your heart for Christmas through this musical journey.

Before and after the program you will have an opportunity to enjoy an art show with submissions from Calvary members.

The program will be followed by a **free** meatball dinner and we are currently accepting names for a waiting list.

**MEMORIAL TREE** The Memorial tree is up and located in the Chapel. Ornaments can be picked up after Christmas.

## **LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS**

We are still in need of individuals who are interested in helping in the library. The library is currently open Sundays from 8:45-10:15 AM. We would like to have enough volunteers to have the library hours extended on Sundays and possibly be open on Wednesdays (late afternoon/early evenings). If you are interested in helping or have questions, contact Janel Skindelien at 235-2508 or [janel@calvarywillmar.org](mailto:janel@calvarywillmar.org).

## **2020 CHURCH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS**

The Church Council Nominating Committee is seeking nominations to the various boards of the church council. If you have questions and are interested in serving Calvary in this capacity, please contact Shawn Swenson at [shawnsvenson@gmail.com](mailto:shawnsvenson@gmail.com) or (218) 443-0427.

## **BE THE BLESSING THIS CHRISTMAS**

Calvary will host Family Promise overnight guests December 22-29. Please keep this ministry in your prayers. If you can find the time – we could use your help. Please take a minute to check out the Sign Up board in the Narthex/Lobby, or better yet, visit the online Sign-Up Genius site. If you need help to get connected, call Joni Hanson 320-2201324, or Roger Bengtson 320-905-1762.

**COMMUNION BREAD** if interested in learning how to make Communion bread, please contact Sharon Davis at 320-796-2280.

## Calvary Staff

Pastors: Tim Malek, Naomi Mahler, Dean E. Johnson

Vicar: David Severtson

Faith Formation Coordinator: Janel Skindelien

Ministry Associates: KJ Farhat, Karina Rice

Office Manager: Teri Sokulski

Ministry Coordinator: Dawn Fisch

Assistant Bookkeeper: Keith Neumann

Custodian: Bruce Laffen, Debbie Petersen, Jasmine Rankin

Head Usher: Randy Novak

Prayer Ministry: Sandi Bennett, Julie Neumann & Dianne Plahn

Kitchen Coordinator: Enola Dowdell

Calvary Cemetery Sexton: Ron Keith

## Missionaries

Philip & Lou Knutson, Southern Africa

Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson, Tanzania

Reverend Alex LaChapelle, Republic Of South Africa

## 2019 Executive Committee

President: Brett Aamot; Vice President: Mike Haugsby; Secretary: Val Amberg; Treasurer: Peter Johnson; Pastors

## Serving Today

Preaching: Pastor Naomi Mahler

Presiding: Pastor Dean E. Johnson

Assisting: Pastor Tim Malek

Acolytes

8:00 Gavin George, Solenne Ruff

10:15 Paige Akerson, Izaiah Sweep

Communion Assistants

8:00 Isaac Eichhorst, Hunter Luft

10:15 Sofia Lynum, Grace Lynum

Greeters

8:00 Jim & Barb Swenson,  
Duaine & Ann Amundson

10:15 Dave & Janna Schmidt,  
Kevin & Sandy Hanson

Lectors

5:30 Nancy Holt

8:00 Jill Tollefson

10:15 Lily Hultgren

Office Volunteer

8:00 Kendra Kienholz

10:15 Julie Olson

Sound

8:00 Victoria Larsen

10:15 Dean Hanson

Video

Mike Schroeder

December Altar Guild: Shirley Ringness,  
Janelle Higdem, Nancy Holt, Janet Haugen &  
Margaret Marsh

## A Measure of Our Faithfulness Worship Attendance

Thanksgiving Eve		127
Saturday, November 30		28
Sunday, December 1	8:00	72
	10:15	212
Wednesday, December 4		64
<b>Total:</b>		<b>503</b>

## Next Sunday—December 15

Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35: 1-10

Psalms 146:5-10

James 5: 7-10

Matthew 11: 2-11

## Our Week at Calvary

<b>Sunday 8</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>	
	8:00 AM	First Word Worship with Hoy Communion
	9:05 AM	Sunday School
	9:05 AM	Adult Forum: Coffee with the Council
	10:15 AM	Foundation & Praise Worship with Holy Communion
	3:00 PM	Girl Scouts 3500
	4:00 PM	Christ Care (Berg)
	6:30 PM	Sr. High Youth Group
<b>Monday 9</b>	9:00 AM	Women's Bible Study: Amazing Collection
	10:30 AM	Prayer Time
	5:15 PM	Grief Care
	5:45 PM	Calvary Bells
	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
	7:00 PM	Scouting BSA
<b>Tuesday 10</b>	8:00 AM	Men's Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting
	10:30 AM	Program Staff Meeting
	5:30 PM	Board of Children & Family
	5:45 PM	Board of Finance
	6:00 PM	Board of Outreach
	6:00 PM	Board of Worship
	6:00 PM	Board of Youth & Family
	6:00 PM	Girl Scouts #3655
	7:00 PM	Church Council
	7:00 PM	Calvary Creation care Team
<b>Wednesday 11</b>	9:00 AM	Beliveau Women's Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Christ Care (Kopitzke)
	5:00 PM	Creative HeArt/Seasonal Choir Rehearsal
	6:00 PM	Dinner Church/Confirmation
	7:00 PM	Adult Education
<b>Thursday 12</b>	9:30 AM	Bible Study
	6:00 PM	Girl Scouts 3516
	6:30 PM	Trailblazers

## Our Week at Calvary Cont...

<b>Friday 13</b>	12:15 PM	Yoga
	6:00 PM	Dance Rehearsal
<b>Saturday 14</b>	9:00 AM	Foundation & Praise Rehearsal
	9:30 AM	SW Synod ECO Faith
	10:00 AM	Christmas Rehearsal –Grades 1-6
	5:30 PM	Chapel Worship with Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 15</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>	
	8:00 AM	First Word Worship with Holy Communion
	9:05 AM	Sunday School
	9:05 AM	Adult Forum:
	10:15 AM	Foundation & Praise Worship with Holy Communion
	4:00 PM	Christmas at Calvary
	6:30 PM	Sr. High Youth Group



### CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Willmar, MN (320) 235-2508

[www.calvarywillmar.org](http://www.calvarywillmar.org)

Member of the **EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**  
Southwestern MN Synod, Bishop Jon Anderson  
Partner Synod: Virginia Synod; Companion Synod: South Eastern Diocese of the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Southern Africa