Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church

1103 W. Chestnut Ave. Olivia, MN
320-523-1574
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February 23, 2020

Cross of Calvary is the ELCA church in Olivia. We are an intergenerational (fancy word for young and old) community that follows Jesus out the building to where we live. We are all learners (disciples) here. This is a safe place to practice worship. And, believe us, it takes practice. Your questions, critical thinking, doubts and imperfect lives are welcome here.

Holy Communion

Holy Communion is open to all who are baptized and trust that Christ is present in the meal, regardless of your tradition or affiliation. Wine (red)/grape juice (white).

Participation:

Bold type means all of us read or pray together. Out loud.

Children in Church

They belong here! They are hearing God's Word, music and prayers. We don't mind fidgeting and chatter! If you like, there are activity bags available in the entry.

Announcements

They are as printed or any new information please give to Pastor Matt prior to worship, please hand a note to Pastor with any announcements, including prayer requests

Restrooms they are located in the hallway to the left of the stairs.

February 23 – March 1

Sunday 2-23	**Worship**	**8:30 AM & 10:30 AM (WOW & JJL sing)**
	Sunday school	**9:30 AM – 10:20 AM**
	Adult Forum	9:30 – 10:20 AM
Monday 2-24	Library reserved	6:00–8:00 PM
	Ruth Bible Study	
Tuesday 2-25	Men's Bible Study	6:15 AM/7:00 AM
Wednesday 2-26	**Ash Wednesday**	**Noon and 7:00 PM**
	Dorcas Bible Study	
	WOW	3:15 – 5:00 PM
	Confirmation	6:30 PM
	Soup Supper serviced by Youth	**5:30 – 6:30 PM**
	Theology on Tap	7:30 PM
Thursday 2-27	Breakfast Club	7:07 AM
	Women's Bible Study	8:15 AM
	Quilters	9:30 AM
	Preschool Screening will be using Sunday school hallway & Library	
Friday 2-28	Parkview	9:30 AM
Saturday 2-29	**Worship Service**	**5:30 PM**
Sunday 3-01	**Worship/Sunday school**	**8:30 AM & 10:30 AM**
	Adult Forum	9:30 – 10:20 AM
	Nursing Home Service	1:00 PM

Science & Faith Adult Forum: Mark Thiesse will facilitate participants through a process of wrestling with the tension between faith and science; opening the door for honest questioning and the suggestion that the two just might be able to work together to make each more meaningful. Sundays at 9:30 AM in the Sanctuary; Feb 2, 9, 23 and March 1

Cross of Calvary Youth

Coffee Hour Servers for February/March

February 23 - Robert & Nanette Serbus
Dalen & Jamie Stryker
Tina Garberich

March 1 – Richard & Tracy Sigurdson
Lawrence & Jen Stratton
Jeanne Welchance

Confirmation Meals for February & March

February 26 – April 1
Soup Supper starting at 5:30 PM – 6: 30 PM (Donation encouraged from ALL)

DODGEBALL LEAGUE for 9-12 grades: Our area churches are sponsoring a Dodgeball league on four Sundays: Jan. 12, Feb. 9, Mar. 8, and Apr. 5. If you are not on a team yet, come play anyway and have fun! Don't want to play? No problem, come and cheer on your friends.

Boundless: God beyond measure is the theme for the National Youth gathering in 2021, June 29-July 3 in Minneapolis. It is based on Ephesians 3:19 CEV. If you are now in grades 8-11, you will be eligible to attend this event. Please sign up on the drinking fountain board/youth board if you are interested. Put the dates on your calendar and start raising money. Check this link to get a preview. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ghdWHO5Ajkw&t=8s

More Fundraisers ahead:

Ash Wednesday Soup Supper - February 26 (Person needed to organize)
Palm Sunday Breakfast and Auction - April 5 (Person needed to organize)
Spring Fling flower sales - Mid- April with delivery before Mother's Day

Upcoming Event at Cross of Calvary

Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church
Family Style Baked Ham Dinner
Sunday, March 29th from 11:00 AM- 1:00 PM

Tickets sales following church services March 15th & March 22nd, also, available at the door or call 320-523-1574

Ticket donations go toward the National Youth Gathering, building improvements & missions.

March Volunteers

8:30 – Sam Sigurdson + need 1 more
10:30 – Daniel Welchance + need 1 more

8:30 – Kirk Elfering, Greg Helin, Richard Sigurdson & Rich Elbert
10:30 –Dave Altmann & Dan Beckler

COMMUNION:
8:30 AM – Alex Gay
10:30 AM – Jena B

CLICKER
8:30 AM – Kaden Bahl
10:30 AM – Needed!!!!

ALTAR GUILD: DeAnne Beckler, Marie Rauenhorst & Bobbi Kopel

Greeters Wanted: In April we will begin having official greeters before Sunday Worship. If you have the gift of Welcome, please join us in this ministry of hospitality by signing up on "The Board" Thank You!

Sign up form is on "The Board"

February 26 – Youth
March 5 – Men's Group
March 18 – Outreach
March 25 – Altar Guild
April 1 –

Cross of Calvary is in charge of "Meal on Wheels in March" sign-up sheet is on "The Board"! Thank you!!!!

Prayer Request

Please take your bulletin home and pray for those listed.
Emergency/Pastoral Care: Please have a family member or friend notify the church. You may also request hospital staff to call on your behalf. Call day or night at 320- 523-1574. Never feel as though you are bothering Pastor or the staff. We are here to serve as a comfort and as a resource.

Phil Bahl – Nate Bahl father
Family of Greg Grund
Military personal and their families
Linda Cole – Nathan Cole's mother
Kathy Brown – Family and Friends
Kathy Johnson – Scott Johnson
Bev Beckman – Blem Family
Tim & Emily Merten family – Angela Cole
Steve Roundtree family - friends

Ron Balgaard – brother in law to Joanne Balgaard
Maggie Bauer – Hausken family
Nancy Dykes - Friends

Events/News

Adult Forum, Will Workshop on March 15 at 9:30 AM in the Sanctuary: Legacy Planning: Being faithful stewards and faithful witnesses in life and in death, you've worked hard all your life to provide for yourself and your family. You've been a good steward of all the gifts God has entrusted to you and you've been a faithful witness to God's love and care. That doesn't have to end when you retire or even when you die. Come and hear from our ELCA Foundation's Regional Gift Planner, Rev. Keith Pearson as he explores some of the ways we can faithfully plan to pass along these assets once we are no longer in need of them. He will share information about tools we can use to minimize taxes and maximize the gifts we give to family, the church, and other charitable causes important to each of us. There are no products or services to sell. Pastor Keith's services are a free resource to congregations and individuals.

Thrivent members: 2019 Thrivent Choice Dollars need to be designated on or before March 31st, 2020.

THRIVENT FINANCIAL®
Connecting faith & finances for good.®

Briar Lippert Benefit: Feb. 29 from 4-8:00 PM at Max's Grill

Wednesday, February 26th
Times: Noon & 7:00 PM

Lenten Schedule

Lenten Services: Wednesdays, March 4, 11, 18, 25 & April 1

Soup Supper: 5:30 PM

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 5 (both services)
Matin Services, April 6-10 at 7:00 AM
Maunday Thursday, April 9 Noon & 7:00 PM
Good Friday, April 10 at 7:00 PM
Easter Sunday Services, April 12 at 6:30 AM & 9:00 AM

Ronald McDonald House Charities, Upper Midwest would like to thank the Cross of Calvary Quilters for donating quilts. Your support will enable us to provide families a comfortable and caring home-away-fron-home while they face their child's health crisis.

GIVING ONLINE at Cross of Calvary

Cross of Calvary is reminding you can now manage your giving online! Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet.

Simply follow these easy steps:

1) Visit the church website at crossofcalvary.net
2) Click on the GIVE button,
3) Click on HERE TO GIVE, then
4) Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.

February 23, 2020
Transfiguration of Our Lord

taking faith home

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Jesus on the Mountain Peak

Disciples have a moountaintop experience.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	**Matthew 17:1-9**	**Transfiguration of Jesus**
Monday	**Exodus 24:12-18**	**Moses goes up to Mt. Sinai**
Tuesday	**2 Peter 1:16-21**	**Eye witnesses of Christ's glory**
Wednesday	**Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21**	**Giving, praying, and fasting**
Thursday	**Genesis 8:1-22**	**The Lord's promise for the earth**
Friday	**Genesis 22:1-19**	**The Lord will provide**
Saturday	**Psalm 2**	**The Lord's chosen king**
Sunday	**Matthew 4:1-11**	**Temptation of Jesus**

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. **Matthew 17:7-8 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty and eternal God, help us to be aware of your saving presence in our lives and in our world, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let this food to us be blessed; and let there be a goodly share, on every table, everywhere. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord Almighty bless you to see Jesus and to bring you comfort and strength.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Identify a special place in your life where you go to experience God's presence.
- Tell of or think about a time you had a special sense of God's presence in your life.
- How do you think the experience of Jesus' transfiguration witnessed by Peter, James, and John impacted the disciples after Jesus' death and resurrection?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 17:1-9.

In the midst of the challenges and hurts of everyday life, it can be a gift and a source of comfort and strength to have a "God moment" experience. It happened to Peter, James, and John. It also happens to us, that sense that God is near and all is well. Our comfort is not in any god or spiritual experience, but one that links us to Jesus, the Son of God, the one who came to die on another mountain, Golgotha. This mountain experience brings together Jesus, Moses, Elijah, and unprepared disciples. What makes this moment a valued "God moment" is that the disciples are comforted ("do not be afraid") and their focus becomes exclusively on Jesus alone. What a moment and a gift it is to see Jesus before us with total focus and concentration. Have you had a special moment that gave you a comforting sense that Jesus was with you?

Pray: **Dear God, help us to see Jesus in our mountaintop highs and in our valley lows, and may that vision give us comfort and strength to be your faithful followers. In Jesus' name, amen.**

SERVICE

A clear voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" (Matthew 17:5b). The key word here is "listen." A Greek philosopher, Epictetus once said, "We have two ears and one mouth so that we can listen twice as much as we speak." One way to serve others is to simply listen. Who, in your life this week, would appreciate the gift of listening?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In Exodus 24, Moses went up on a cloud-covered mountain. "Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights" (vs. 18b). We are about to enter another 40-day period of prayer and fasting as we prepare for Ash Wednesday this week. The day before is called Shrove Tuesday and is recognized around the world as a day to eat fattening foods, especially pancakes. Prepare a pancake feast on Tuesday this week to enjoy with friends and family. After feasting, say this blessing: **May God bless you through your journey this Lent.**