



Cross of Calvary

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church

1103 W. Chestnut Ave. Olivia, MN

320-523-1574

crossofcalvary@gmail.com

crossofcalvary.net

DECEMBER

December 13 – December 20

Sunday 12.13

Worship - Online only

Monday 12.14

Tuesday 12.15

Wednesday 12.16

Confirmation – On line

Advent Mid-week service at 7:00 PM - online

Church Council Meeting at 7:45 PM - Zoom

Women's Bible Study at 8:15 AM - Zoom

Thursday 12.17

Friday 12.18

Saturday 12.19

Sunday 12.20

Worship – Online only

Christmas Program posted on line



Worship Times

All services will be on-line only through January 3rd, 2021

Our Worship needs Song Leaders: If you would like to lead the hymns at in person worship, please call Jeni or Sue in the office. We would love to hear you and have you lead as we mediate on the words.

You haven't heard your favorite hymn in a long time? Please contact someone on the worship committee or call the office to request your favorite hymns. Songs are meaningful and lead us to worship. Help us to include your favorite hymns and worship songs.

Confirmation lessons (GREAT for ALL AGES) are taught online by Pastor Matt - they are excellent. We are studying the Gospel of Luke. Check them out on Matt Hausken YouTube channel, or our church website under youth/confirmation. Don't wait too long. We are starting week 3! Each video is 20-25 minutes long. Have your Bible and Highlighter handy. Only 7-9 graders need to send in the assignments. (Wink wink!)

December Confirmation Schedule

December 16 - Online

December 23 – No Confirmation

December 30 – No Confirmation



Church Cookbook Project

Dear Cross of Calvary Members,



In years past, Cross of Calvary has put together a cookbook of recipes from its members. Since 2020 has been a crazy year and we've been spending more time at home, I figure it's time to make an updated cookbook. In this new cookbook we would include old recipes from the past cookbooks and we would also like to include recipes from our new members. Feel free to send in recipes, old or new! All recipes will be included. If you'd like to submit recipes, email your submissions to Olivia Hanson - ojhanson0220@gmail.com if you'd like to help put the cookbook together or have suggestions, text or call 320-400-9005. Thank you! - Olivia Hanson



Women's study will be on zoom. We will be using the book "Lazarus Awakening" by Joanna Weaver (author of Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World). We will be finding our place in the heart of God. There are 12 books available at church. Please pick up in the office or call to reserve one and we can deliver. Cost of the books is \$15.

Cross of Calvary Faith @ Home/Sunday School

Faith @ Home Weekly Bible Story

Bible Story for December 8-14

John 1:6-8, 19-23

Jesus Calling Bible Storybook – John the Baptist, page 154

Spark Story Bible – Angels Visit, 196

Faith @ Home Toolbox

We have had a wonderful time sharing Faith @ Home Toolboxes. For those of you who missed it, we'll be sharing them after Sunday 9:00 AM worship throughout the year. If we don't see you before the end of year, we'll contact you to schedule a time to give you your Faith @ Home Toolbox and teach you how to use it. Weekly Faith 5 Bible stories will be posted at on our website.

sarah.hausken@gmail.com or Jeniskeie@gmail.com

Faith 5

This simple faith practice deeply connects people to God and one another, and connects faith to daily life.

FAITH 5 carries the power to enrich communication, deepen understanding, and promote mental, and spiritual health.

The five steps are:

STEP 1: SHARE your highs and lows

STEP 2: READ a Bible verse or story

STEP 3: TALK about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows or notice what stands out to you in the Bible reading

STEP 4: PRAY for one another's highs and lows

STEP 5: BLESS one another. One examples of a blessing is "I love you and God loves you too"

Stephen Ministers are available to visit in person or over the phone if you are in need of someone to talk to about decisions, or you are feeling lonely. During this time when we are physically apart, we want to walk along beside you and want you to know we are here for you. Please call the church office and Sue can pass on your request. 320-523-1574

Cross of Calvary Yard Signs are here!

Show your Cross of Calvary pride with a beautiful green and white yard sign! Request yours by contacting the church office or take a sign that has been placed in the church yard.

320-523-1574



Care Team A goal of the Care Team at Cross of Calvary has been to develop a Prayer Ministry for our congregation. After reading from Establishing a Prayer Ministry by Bjorn Pedersen, we are including the entire congregation in this ministry rather than limiting it to a telephone chain, or email chain or text chain. A December Prayer Calendar for each of us to post or place in an area in our home, has been placed in the Follower. We can be reminded to pray for others every day and see how the power of prayer works in our lives. We welcome your feedback and hope that you will feel free to email Jeni with your ideas for future calendars.

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University Class

Our next class will begin right when you'll need it on January 5, 2021.

Want to register? Have questions? Contact Sister Sarah Hausken sarah.hausken@gmail.com

320-579-0838



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.

Prayer Request

Joe Brobjorg – Gordy Blem brother in law

Gena Amsden – Family & Friends

Bobbi Jo Abrahamson – Family

Steve Olson – Family

Denise Revier – Family

Sandy Alton – daughter in law of Sharon &

Richard Alton

Ralph Taylor – Becky Nelson's father

Sherry Wold – Courtney Kopel grandmother

Sonja Fostvedt – family

Ardith Glockzin – Carol Senkyr sister

Chet & Angie Boen – Friends & Family

Family of Larry Jacobs

Family of Zella Caspers

Donna Greenwell

Tim & Emily Merten family – Angela Cole

Kathy Johnson – Scott Johnson

Lesley Sagedahl- Sagedahl Family

Briar Lippert – Friends & Family

Darwin – Sonia Grasmon's brother

Teri Vogt – Stacey Larson

ALL persons working tirelessly to help with the Covid-19 pandemic

Military personal and their families

December 13, 2020
Third Sunday of Advent



Jesus brings good news.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 1:6-8, 19-28	John's witness to the light
Monday	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11	Good news of deliverance
Tuesday	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	A call to rejoice
Wednesday	Romans 10:14-17	Those who bring good news
Thursday	1 Thessalonians 3:6-13	Timothy's encouraging report
Friday	Genesis 18:1-18	A son for Abraham and Sarah
Saturday	Psalms 126	A people who dream
Sunday	Luke 1:26-38	The birth of Jesus foretold

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners. Isaiah 61:1 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of power and might, help us to be aware of the needs of people and be prepared to bring joy and good news to people through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

May this gift of food fill our hearts with laughter and make us shout with joy. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God of peace make you holy in spirit and soul and body. (1 Thessalonians 5:23)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- ☑ Think or talk about a time when you felt sad or brokenhearted.
- ☑ When you feel discouraged, who do you talk to or what do you do to feel better?
- ☑ Jesus comes to change our lives. How does Jesus make a difference for your life and the lives of others?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11.

An American emailed his friend in Zimbabwe and asked if he was well. The response was “I am well if you are well.” That response comes with a communal understanding of wellness. We can’t be well on our own. Neither can we truly feel okay about ourselves if we feel safe and protected while our neighbor does not feel okay. Isaiah 61:1-2 brings good news for all, including—and especially—the oppressed, the brokenhearted, captives, prisoners, those who mourn and those who owe debts (The year of the Lord’s favor was a time to forgive debts). God’s work of justice and mercy that brings joy will be seen in all the nations (v. 11) and is for all, not just a select and privileged few. How do you see the wellbeing of others as important to your own wellbeing?

Pray: God of justice, we give you thanks that your goodness and mercy is for us and for all the world through Christ our Lord. Amen. (Isaiah 61:11)

SERVICE

There is a theme of joy in our readings this week. This joy includes God’s promise to overcome pain, disappointment, and fear. Think of someone currently experiencing difficulties. How can you be the hands and voice of God’s good news to that person this week?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Place the wise men further away from the nativity set for now. Wait to place Jesus in the manger until Christmas Eve. On your Advent wreath, light the first candle of hope, the second one of peace, and the third one of joy. Pause for a moment to sit in silence and look upon the nativity set and think about the good news and joy the coming of Jesus brings us. Say this Bible verse: Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18) Pray: Lord God, thank you for being with us in times of sadness and times of

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Joy to the World