



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 27 – January 3

Sunday 12.27

Worship - Online

Monday 12.28

Tuesday 12.29

Wednesday 12.30

Confirmation – On line

Thursday 12.31

Friday 01.01

Happy New Year!

Saturday 01.02

Sunday 01.03

Worship – Online

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.

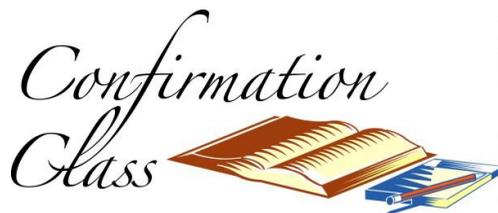
You haven't heard your favorite hymn in a long time? Please contact someone on the worship committee or call the office to request your favorite hymns. Songs are meaningful and lead us to worship. Help us to include your favorite hymns and worship songs.

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. 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!)

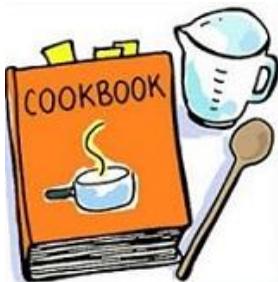
December Confirmation Schedule

December 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 22-28

Luke 2:26-38

Jesus Calling Bible Storybook-He's Here!, page 144-147

Spark Story Bible – Jesus is born, page 212

Bible Story for December 29 – January 4

Luke 2:22-40

Spark Story Bible - Simeon and Anna, Page 226

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



Worship Times

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

Keep watching for updates on when we will have in-person services.

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

Gena Amsden – Family & Friends
Bobbi Jo Abrahamson – Family
Steve Olson – Family
Denise Revier – Family
Ralph Taylor – Becky Nelson's father
Sherry Wold – Courtney Kopel grandmother
Sonja Fostvedt – family
Ardith Glockzin – Carol Senkyr sister
Chet & Angie Boen – Friends & Family
Donna Greenwell

Sonia Grasmon – Family & Friends
Sharon Alton – Family & Friends
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 27, 2020

First Sunday After

Christmas

The sight of baby Jesus brings peace.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 2:22-40	Jesus presented in the temple
Monday	Isaiah 61:10–62:3	Rejoice in the Lord
Tuesday	Galatians 4:4-7	Adoption as God’s children
Wednesday	Jude 1-2	A prayer for blessing
Thursday	Ecclesiastes 3:1-13	A time for everything
Friday	Psalms 8	Divine majesty and human dignity
Saturday	Psalms 148	All creation praises God
Sunday	John 1:1-18	The Word became flesh

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation.” Luke 2:29-30 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of peace, give us faith to walk in peace each day and to trust your eternal care for us and for all the world through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Mealttime Prayer:

Praise the Lord, all you people; for our Savior Jesus and for this gift of food, praise the Lord. (Psalm 148:1)

A Blessing to Give:

May Jesus, the light of the world, give you peace.

Hymn of the Week

Away in a Manger

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- ☒ When something painful happens, where do you look for hope?
- ☒ What does it mean to you to be a person of peace?
- ☒ How does the message of the birth of Jesus bring you hope and peace?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 2:22-40.

Luke 2:29-32 is known as the *Nunc Dimittis* (Latin for, “Now release,” the first words of Simeon’s song of praise in the Latin Bible) used in worship and also tender words offered at the deathbed of a loved one. Simeon’s song makes it clear that in Jesus, God has acted in a way that now gives peace for all people, including Gentiles, the non-Jews of the world. Luke makes it clear that the promise given to the Jewish people to be a blessing to the world has now come to pass through the birth of Jesus. Barriers are broken down. Jews and Gentiles together have hope. Mary and Joseph who can only offer two turtledoves (often a gift given by the poor) as a sacrifice for Jesus’ birth, have actually given the world its real hope and peace. It brings the joy expressed in Psalm 148, but it also brings the pain that will pierce Mary’s soul. Compassion is like that. It feels the pain of others and trusts that God’s saving work is the light, hope, and peace of the world. How has love brought you pain and peace at the same time?

Pray: Loving God, we thank you for Simeon, Anna, and all those throughout history who have lifted up Jesus as the hope and peace for all the world. Amen.

SERVICE

In the temple in Jerusalem, Simeon and Anna encouraged and blessed two young, first-time parents, Mary and Joseph. Identify parents with young children in your congregation or community. Is there an act of service you can do on their behalf (e.g., help with cleaning, bringing a meal, or childcare) so they can enjoy some time out together?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Psalm 148 is a psalm that offers praise to God in all things. Praise means to give thanks. Write your own psalm. Make a list of things for which you wish to praise God. Using the list, say each praise aloud. For example:

I praise God for earth and all stars. Praise the Lord!

I praise God for family and friends. Praise the Lord!

And so forth until you finish the list.

WEEKLY MILESTONES

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