

*Calvary Lutheran Church*  
19216 Rapidan Avenue,

Interim Pastor Gerry Giese  
Vicar Dave Reedstrom  
**Ministers:** All Members  
**Church:** 278-3317  
**E-Mail:** calvary@hickorytech.net  
**Web site:** www.calvaryrapidan.org

**Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

!  
**September 23, 2018** **10:15 am**  
! !

\*indicates the congregation stands as it is able  
**Bold** indicates the congregation’s response

Prelude

Invocation - Confession and Forgiveness.

Blessed be the ☐ holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**Source of all life, we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.**

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, ☐ God’s love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God’s people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**\*Gathering Song ELW #717 “Let Justice Flow Like Streams”**

\*Greeting ELW p. 147-149

\*Kyrie and Glory to God

Prayer of the Day **O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**



**WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY:** Liturgist/Preacher – Pastor Paul Meierding;  
Piano/Organ – Deb Ireland; Greeters/Ushers –; Lector – Ann Koester; Coffee Hour –  
Lucille Doss.

! !

**We welcome Pr. Paul Meierding** and appreciate and thank him for leading Adult Bible Study and worship today.

**We continue to pray for** Esther Kunz, Vicki Reedstrom, Rachael Nelson, Jessica Reedstrom, Darlene Redman, Arlen Ostermann, Sheila Scharping, Michelle Kraskey, Mark Vollmer and Ann Koester.

**Vicar Dave Reedstrom** is preaching at Salem Lutheran Church in Albert Lea this morning. He is participating in a SE Mn Synod program called Leading Together with the theme of 'Developing Leaders'.

**Adult Bible Studies:** “Christ Calls Us to Wholeness” is a bible study based on the Wholeness Wheel, sponsored by Portico benefit ministry.

**Special Council Meeting** will be held this morning following worship. Council members are asked to get their coffee and come to the back NW corner for a short meeting.

**Wednesday Evening Bible Study:** at 6:30 pm, “See Through the Scriptures” sponsored by Crossways International.

**Today, Sunday, September 16, 2018**

Christian Education “Christ Calls us to Wholeness”	9:00 am
Worship (Pastor Paul Meierding)	10:15 am
Fellowship/Coffee Hour	11:30 am
Special Council Meeting	11:30 am

**Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday**

Pastor Gerry Giese – Office Hours

**Wednesday**

“See Through the Scriptures” Bible Study 6:30 pm

**Sunday, September 30, 2018 “In the Vineyard”**

Worship (Vicar Dave Reedstrom)	10:15 am
Fellowship & Coffee Hour	11:30 am

**Lessons for Eighteenth Sunday of Pentecost 9-23-2018**  
**Lessons are for Sunday, September 23, 2018**

**Jeremiah 11:18-20**

*Today's reading tells of the suffering of the prophet Jeremiah, who announced God's word to Judah but was met with intense opposition and persecution. Jeremiah continues to trust in God in the midst of his suffering.*

<sup>18</sup>It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds. <sup>19</sup>But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!" <sup>20</sup>But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

**James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a**

*The wisdom God gives unites our hearts and minds. Instead of living to satisfy our own wants and desires, we manifest this wisdom in peace, gentleness, mercy, and impartiality toward others.*

<sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. <sup>15</sup>Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. <sup>16</sup>For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. <sup>4:1</sup>Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8a</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

**Mark 9:30-37**

*Jesus' teaching and action in this text are directed to the church whenever it is seduced by the world's definition of greatness: prestige, power, influence, and money. The antidote to such a concern for greatness is servanthood.*

<sup>30</sup>[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; <sup>31</sup>for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." <sup>32</sup>But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

<sup>33</sup>Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" <sup>34</sup>But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." <sup>36</sup>Then he

took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup>“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”