

As We Gather

The Garden of Eden. Paradise! Adam and Eve had it all, didn't they? So what went wrong? Why couldn't they stand up to a little temptation and "just say no!" Their disobedience plunged the world into sin, under God's curse of death, and God could have washed His hands of humanity at that very moment. Humanity's "day in the sun" would have been brief, indeed! Nothing to look forward to but God's curse of eternal death – no forgiveness, no second chance, no hope. But God did the unthinkable because He loved the unlovable! God sent His only Son to suffer and die to take the punishment of Adam and Eve's disobedience – and our own – and in its place give us the promise of Paradise restored! Today we begin our six-week study of Old Testament stories of God's grace that shaped – and continue to shape – our world!

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

OPENING HYMN

"O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days"

Hymn #418

THE INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

(please kneel)

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.
Amen.

The Lord remembers His mercy and steadfast love. He remembers not our sins and transgressions. Because of Christ's all-atoning sacrifice for us, God forgives all our sins. He brings us forth by this word of truth to be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures. So, rejoice! Jesus paid the price for Adam and for Eve, and for us! We are new creations by His grace!

Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE:

"O Savior, Precious Savior"

**O Savior, precious Savior,
Whom yet unseen we love;
O name of might and favor,
All other names above,
We worship Thee we bless Thee,
To Thee, O Christ we sing.
We praise Thee and confess Thee,
Our holy Lord and King.**

**O grant the consummation
Of this our song above
In endless adoration
And everlasting love;
We worship Thee we bless Thee,
To Thee, O Christ we sing.
We praise Thee and confess Thee,
Our holy Lord and King.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(please be seated)

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: Genesis 3:1-19 *(Within God's curse of the serpent, Eve, and Adam is a promise of future redemption!)*

¹ Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

² The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, ³ but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.' "

⁴ "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. ⁵ "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

⁶ When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

⁸ Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

¹⁰ He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

¹¹ And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

¹² The man said, "The woman you put here with me--she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?"

The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

¹⁴ So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals!

You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.

¹⁵ And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

¹⁶ To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

¹⁷ To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, `You must not eat of it,'

"Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life.

¹⁸ It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.

¹⁹ By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING: James 1:12–18 (*"God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He tempt anyone."*)

¹² Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.

¹³ When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; ¹⁴ but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. ¹⁵ Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

¹⁶ Don't be deceived, my dear brothers. ¹⁷ Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. ¹⁸ He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE LENTEN VERSE:

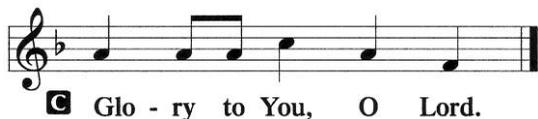
"Return to the Lord"



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

THE HOLY GOSPEL IS ANNOUNCED:

The Holy Gospel according to St Mark the first chapter.



Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

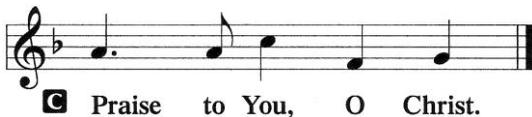
THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 1:9–15 (*Jesus is tempted by Satan.*)

⁹ At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ As Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

¹² At once the Spirit sent him out into the desert, ¹³ and he was in the desert forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

¹⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵ "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!"

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Mt. Calvary Puppet Ministry

THE HYMN OF THE DAY

"All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall"

Hymn #562

THE MESSAGE

"Adam & Eve: It's Their Fault"

based on Genesis 3:1-19

THE APOSTLES' CREED:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE GATHERING OF THE TITHES AND OFFERINGS

++ The Stewardship Thought ++

After His Baptism, Jesus spent forty days in the wilderness being tempted by Satan. During those forty days, Jesus resisted every temptation. During this Lenten journey, let us rededicate ourselves to saying "No!" to Satan's temptations as we follow Jesus in the way of the cross.

"No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it." (1 Cor. 10:13)

OFFERTORY HYMN:

"Take My Life and Let It Be"

**Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use
Every power as Thou shalt chose.**

THE PRAYERS: After each petition, the Worship Leader will say, "*Lord in Your mercy,*" and the congregation will respond, "*Hear our prayer.*"

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

THE CLOSING HYMN: *"Come To Calvary's Holy Mountain"* **Hymn #435**

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members of the Week, Steve and Jan Kirchoff, met their freshman year at Bowling Green State University in Ohio and were married in 1971. After college they moved to Fort Hood, Texas, where Steve served as an Army Lieutenant until 1975. They then lived in Ohio until 1985, when Steve was hired at RAFB as an engineer. Jan taught school in the Houston County gifted program and both are now retired. They have two daughters (Laura Harper and Allison Martin) and are also blessed with two granddaughters (Carolyn Harper and Catherine Martin). Steve and Jan serve together on the Board of Stewardship and have been members of their ChristCare group for the past 13 years. Steve is an usher and lay reader and Jan plays in the bell choir and subs for the altar guild. They enjoy being with family and spending time at their home in the mountains of North Carolina.

This week's Altar Flowers were provided by Carl & Barbara Mabee, in celebration of their 45th wedding anniversary.

Newsletter Deadline: Please have all items for the March Newsletter in to the office by Monday, February 23rd.

Mount Calvary has received a donation in memory of Kevin Tuttle from Carl & Barbara Mabee.

Mount Calvary has received a donation in memory of Jean Allatson, Maureen Young's sister, from the "Not Yet Finished" ChristCare Group.

We now have extra envelopes in the pews in case your forgot yours. If you use them and can remember your regular envelope number, please write it on the envelope.

I'd like to thank everyone for their cards, calls & prayers following the recent death of my sister, Jean Allatson. - Maureen Young

Mount Calvary Merchandise: After today's service, members of the Board of Outreach will be passing out ink pens and reusable grocery bags. The plan is to give two pens to everyone youth aged and above. Keep one for yourself and give the other one away. Or leave it at your doctor's office, or the bank, or the DMV, or anywhere that someone else may see it. We plan to keep a supply of pens on the information counter in the narthex at all times so if you ever need more Mount Calvary pens to "lose" around town, go ahead and pick up two or three. We also want to give two grocery bags to each family. Keep one for yourself and give another to a neighbor or friend, especially a neighbor or friend who does not have a church home. You could even give it to a stranger at the grocery store. If you give away both of your bags, we will gladly give you more. If we run out, we will gladly order more. Help us reach out to the community so more people will know about our wonderful congregation at Mount Calvary Lutheran!

Journey to the Cross - Mark your calendar today for this year's Journey to the Cross. Join us on April 4, 2015, from 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. as we follow Jesus on a step-by-step journey to the cross and then see the empty tomb on Easter morning. We will also have an Easter Egg Hunt. Join us for the fun!! Sign-up sheets for volunteers will soon be out. Any questions, please ask Cynthia at mt-cal-dcm@att.net.

Warner Robins Food Bank Project - After the holidays, the Food Bank supplies are low and they are in need of our support. Please start bringing in your non-perishable food items, and also household essentials. **Household essential items can include:** toilet paper, soap, detergent, bleach, paper items, cups, plastic forks, spoons, and toiletries. Place all items in the box labeled WR Food Bank, under the table by the front door. If you enter via the Fellowship Hall, place items in the blue bin next to the soda machine. This project will run from **February thru June.**

Mailing Address for Ed & Lois Meyer: 9208 Aboite Road, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46804

A Biblical Tour of Israel & Jordan: (October 20-30, 2015) An Experience of a Lifetime! We will walk where Jesus walked – Jerusalem, Jericho, Bethlehem, Caesarea, Sea of Galilee, etc. as well as see where Moses & Israel lived for 40 years in the desert. Arrangements can be made for departure from any airport. Rev Darold Reiner (Retired LCMS Pastor and former LWML International Counselor) has led many such tours. Contact him for a brochure at 406-890-1149 or imhis38@gmail.com.

Help us with the Sunday slides! We need several people to help show the PowerPoint slides for the 8:00 and 10:45 am services on a rotating basis (once every three months). Training will be provided. Please speak to Pastor Brighton if you are interested.

Middle School Winter Retreat: The Middle School Youth will be returning around Noon this Sunday, February 22nd. Please be there ready to pick them up.

Student Leadership Development Team (SLDT) Meeting: Youth serving on this session of the SLDT will be meeting this Sunday, February 22nd, from 6:30-8 pm in the Annex. We will continue our Mission Trip and Spring/Summer activity planning.

Sunday School Staff Meeting: This is the month the Sunday School Staff will be working through the lessons 5 & 6 of "Fellowship Basics". We will be meeting this Thursday, February 26th, from 6-7:30 in the Education Wing.

High School Outreach Party: The next Outreach Party for High School Youth is this Saturday, February 28th, from 7-10 pm in the Annex. The cost is \$5/person (There are coupons available for friends/guests to be able to come for free. Join us for an evening of food, fun, and Christ-centered fellowship!

Confirmation Workshop: All youth in 8th grade planning on being confirmed this year should plan on attending the Confirmation Workshop next Sunday, March 1st, from Noon – 3:00. You will meet with pastor to discuss Prayer, The Sacraments, and begin to prepare you papers for Confirmation weekend.

Youth Board Meeting: The Youth Board will be meeting next Sunday, March 1st, from Noon – 1:30 in the Annex. We will welcoming our new members and doing all the rest of the exciting things we usually do at our highly anticipated meetings.

High School T.A.G. Night: The next High School T.A.G. Night will be Sunday, March 1st, from 6:30-8:30 in the Annex. We will be discussing how pointless so much of our lives can be without the hope that can be found in Christ! We will also be snacking and playing some "stupid" games. See you there!

High School Spring Retreat! The High School Youth will be going to the Calvin Center the weekend of March 6th – 8th for their Spring Retreat. In addition to spending time in God's Word as we explore the theme of "Amazing Grace!" we will also be doing team building and High Ropes. The cost for the weekend is \$100/person. We will leave at 5:00 Friday afternoon and be returning Sunday around Noon.

Mission Trip Registration Is Open: Registration for "Linked" The 2015 High School Mission Trip to Nashville, TN is open to all youth in grades 8-12. The cost for the week is \$240/person and includes everything but Sunday's lunch. The price will go down based on funds raised, so a \$100 deposit is all you need to register.

PRAYER CONCERNS

The family of Pearl Floyd, Bob Day's mother-in-law, who died this past week.

Molly Keister, who is recovering from hip replacement surgery.

Annamarie vonDebschitz, who is hospitalized.

Kathy Grube, who is recovering from stem cell replacement surgery.

Paula Babcock, who is recovering from surgery for breast cancer.

Joyce Boone, our former Wednesday Night cook, who is recovering from neck surgery.

Keep In Your Prayers

John Hunter, Connie Kinsey, Antonio Kong (Evy Keyes' father), Josie Kong (Evy Keyes' mother), Pastor Ed Meyer, Gayle Calhoun (Sonya Popken's mom), Anita McIntyre, Jo Ann Smith & Karen Johnson.

(NOTE: Those listed under "Keep in your prayers" are removed from the list after eight weeks. If there is someone you would like to keep on the list for another eight weeks, please contact the church office.)

Those Battling Cancer

Those battling cancer: Angie Carros (Carol Felderman's aunt), Chet Branscom, Jace Cumbie (son of Amanda McVay's boyfriend), Mary Schwope (Michele Durbin's aunt), Jeannette Poniske (Fred Tamer's mom), Doris Helmes (Bill Zeuner's sister), Margaret Frazier, Dwight Hulse (friend of Roger & Gina Peterson), Bruce Oswald (Krystal Ferguson's father), Scott Stanley (friend of Pedro & Kathy Camejo), Gary Jennings (Margaret Jennings' son), Elaine Mead (Jeannie Hawkins' aunt), Fred Diehl, John Hoar and Dana (Stroud) Stewart (Valerie Koehler's daughter).

Those Serving in the Military in Dangerous Areas

Christopher Dierking, Christopher Mittuch, Thomas Kaiser Guilford, Darrin Landis, Denver Yarbrough, Michael Welch, Jonathan Fetchik and Christian Corbitt, for safety and good health as they serve our country in dangerous areas.

SERVING US TODAY

PREACHER: Pastor David Brighton. **LITURGIST:** Pastor David Brighton. **ELDERS:** Eric Gossman (Sun 8 am) and D. J. Nelson (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Andrew LeBorious (8 am) & Pat Stetzler (10:45 am). **USHERS:** Early – Erv Robinson, Paul Keister, Fred Hursey, Steve Kirchoff & Eric Gossman. Late – Dwight Miller, Roger Moeller, John Hunter, Jon Peterson, Jim Morey & Cameron Mastenbrook. **ALTAR GUILD:** Sallie Brinkley, Barbara Locke, Sherry Parsons & Pat Stetzler. **LAY READERS:** Darron Counselman (8 am) and Bonnie Hudlin (10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Christi Bacon. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Tanner Gossman (8 am) and Josh Johnson (10:45 am).

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: D. J. Nelson (Wed 7 pm), Tony McVay (Sat 6 pm), Bob Yeager (Sun 8 am) and James Bozarth (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Colton Durbin (Wed 7 pm), Christopher Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Nathan LeBorious (Sun 8 am) and Zoe Bowden (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Sallie Brinkley, Barbara Locke, Sherry Parsons & Pat Stetzler. **LAY READERS:** Judy Van Gorder (7 pm), David Miller (Sat 6 pm), Carol Yeager (Sun 8 am) and D. J. Nelson (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Dale & Jeannie Hawkins (Sun 8 am) and Jan Clark (Sun 10:45 am).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 and Romans 5:1-11

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday – 33 Early – 86 Late – 152 Total – 271

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Today	12:00 pm	EE Kickoff Luncheon
	6:30 pm	SLDT Meeting
Monday	6:20 pm	Evangelism Callers (New EE Class)
	6:30 pm	Women's Small Group
Tuesday	6:30 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
	7:15 pm	Bell Choir
Wednesday	6:00 pm	Dinner
	7:00 pm	Worship
Thursday	9:30 am	Mom's Play Group
	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
	6-7:30 pm	Sunday School Staff Meeting
Saturday	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
	7 – 10 pm	High School Outreach Party
Next Sunday	12-1:30 pm	Youth Board Meeting
	12 – 3 pm	8 th Grade Confirmation Workshop
	6:30 pm	TAG Night