

As We Gather

David was a shepherd boy who trusted in God with that wonderful, unquestioning child-like faith. When a bear or lion attacked his sheep, he knew God would protect him as he killed these predators who intended to harm the flock. This helps to explain his fearlessness when going up against the giant, Goliath, with just his slingshot. Fast forward a couple decades and an older, powerful King David gives in to temptation that results in adultery and murder. How could one so firm in his faith fall that far? David struggled, like we all do, with his sinful nature. The good news? God's grace was sufficient – David's sins were forgiven and to this day we associate these words with David: "He was a man after God's own heart."

Holy Communion

Holy Communion is being celebrated today. It is the belief of the Lutheran Church, based on Jesus' own words, that in this Sacrament His body and blood are really present and that forgiveness of sins and the assurance of salvation are offered to all who come confessing their sins and believing in Him. Communion is therefore offered to those who share this confession of faith. Children who are not yet confirmed are invited to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing. Guests who may have questions about Communion at Mt. Calvary are encouraged to talk to Pastor Brighton.

PRELUDE**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING****OPENING HYMN:***"O Christ, You Walked the Road"***Hymn #424****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

God used David to accomplish mighty things.

As a shepherd, David faced and defeated Goliath, a powerful enemy of Israel. As King he defeated all the enemies of God's people and joyfully returned the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem.

Though David was victorious over many foes, he suffered defeat when he surrendered to his own sinful desires.

Through the prophet Nathan, David heard God's words of condemnation.

God wants to use us to accomplish mighty things for His Kingdom.

With Him we have victory, but too often, like David, we surrender to our own sinful desires and find ourselves condemned as well.

Like David we can only say,

"I have sinned against the Lord,"

Let us then confess our sins before 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.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. So now, the words Nathan once said to David, I can say to you: "The Lord has taken away your sin." Rejoice! And live in the grace and forgiveness Jesus won for you at Calvary!

Amen.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE:

"God Loved the World"

**God loved the world so that He gave
His only Son the lost to save
That all who would in Him believe
Should everlasting life receive.**

**Be of good cheer, for God's own Son
Forgives all sins which you have done;
You're justified by Jesus' blood;
Baptized, you have the highest good.**

**Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To You, O blessed Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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: 1 Samuel 17:8-11, 34-37, 45-50, 2 Samuel 11:1-9, 14-17, 12: 1a, 11-14

⁸ Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. ⁹ If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us."

¹⁰ Then the Philistine said, "This day I defy the ranks of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other." ¹¹ On hearing the Philistine's words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified.

³⁴ But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, ³⁵ I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. ³⁶ Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. ³⁷ The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."

Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you."

⁴⁵ David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. ⁴⁶ This day the LORD will hand you over to me, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. Today I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. ⁴⁷ All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give all of you into our hands."

⁴⁸ As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him. ⁴⁹ Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell facedown on the ground.

⁵⁰ So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him.

(Over 25 years later)

¹ In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem.

² One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, ³ and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "Isn't this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" ⁴ Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (She had purified herself from her uncleanness.) Then she went back home. ⁵ The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant."

⁶ So David sent this word to Joab: "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent him to David. ⁷ When Uriah came to him, David asked him how Joab was, how the soldiers were and how the war was going. ⁸ Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and wash your feet." So Uriah left the palace, and a gift from the king was sent after him. ⁹ But Uriah slept at the entrance to the palace with all his master's servants and did not go down to his house.

¹⁴ In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. ¹⁵ In it he wrote, "Put Uriah in the front line where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die."

¹⁶ So while Joab had the city under siege, he put Uriah at a place where he knew the strongest defenders were. ¹⁷ When the men of the city came out and fought against Joab, some of the men in David's army fell; moreover, Uriah the Hittite died.

(One year later)

¹ The LORD sent Nathan to David.

¹¹ "This is what the LORD says: `Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity upon you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will lie with your wives in broad daylight. ¹² You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.' "

¹³ Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD."

Nathan replied, "The LORD has taken away your sin. You are not going to die. ¹⁴ But because by doing this you have made the enemies of the LORD show utter contempt, the son born to you will die."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING: Ephesians 2:1–10 (*"God raised up with Christ."*)

⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

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.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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

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." (1d Cor. 10:13)

OFFERTORY HYMN:

"Create In Me"



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir - it with
in me. Cast me not a-way from Your pres-ence and take not Your
Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of Your sal - va - tion
and up - hold me with Your free Spir - it

THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

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 WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION *(The center cup in each tray is white grape juice for pregnant moms or those allergic to alcohol.)*

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

"What Is This Bread"
"What Wondrous Love Is This"
"O Jesus, Blessed Lord To Thee"

Hymn #629
Hymn #543
Hymn #632

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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:

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

Hymn #427

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Men's Breakfast – Guys, don't forget our breakfast on Saturday, March 21st at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. It's great food, great fellowship and a morning devotion by Pastor to start the day. See you there!

Members of the Week: Fred & Nancy Hursey moved here with their two sons one week before the flood of 1994, from Charleston, SC. They met at the University of South Carolina and were married in May of 1977 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Columbia (Nancy's home town). Nancy has a BA degree in Anthropology and a MAT in Education and Fred has a BS in Civil Engineering. Nancy and Fred have two sons; Andy, who lives with his wife, Christy and their two children in Warner Robins. Andy is the band director at Perry High School and Christy is the band director at Perry Middle; and Daniel who lives in Summerville, SC with his wife, Jenny and their three children. Daniel is an electrical engineer with the DOD and Jenny is studying for her degree in culinary arts. Nancy plays piano, cello, and has sung with Sweet Adelines. She served as choir director at Mt. Cavalry and is a retired Middle School Social studies teacher. Fred is an Environmental Engineer and has worked in the DOD for 37 years. He has served Mt. Calvary as an elder for 6 years and sang in the Heart of Georgia Men's chorus of the Barbershop Harmony Society and Mt. Calvary's choir. He is a member of Gideons International.

Thanks to Don and Judy Parrott we now have 2 brand new high chairs/booster seats for the Michael Fellowship Hall. For now we should a sufficient number of seats for our little ones.

Caring Solutions 31st Annual Fundraising Benefit – This year, Caring Solutions is proud to announce that Josh Duggar of TLC's "19 Kids and Counting" will be the featured speaker on April 9, 2015 at Ingleside Baptist Church in Macon. Tickets are just \$10 per person, which includes heavy hors d'oeuvres and the program with John Duggar in the Ingleside Auditorium. Call 755-1343 or visit www.FriendsofCaringSolutions.com to reserve your tickets!

Mount Calvary has received a donation in memory of Pearl Floyd, Glenda Day's mom, from Bob & Glenda Day.

Mount Calvary has received a donation in memory of Harry Felt (former member) from Sue Glaser.

Mount Calvary has received a donation in memory of Ken Martin from Roger & Beverly Cullen.

Mount Calvary has received donations in memory of Jean Allatson, Maureen Young's sister, from Betty Cummings, Lena Grube and Chet & Nancy Branscom.

This week's Altar Flowers were provided by Dwight & Marlene Miller in honor of their wedding anniversary, and by Carl & Barbara Mabee in honor of their son Scott's birthday.

NEEDED - Acrylic yarn to finish off the 146 Project Linus blankets that we need to crochet around the edges. If you have extra yarn you could donate, contact Vivian Stillely or Nancy Branscom.

Spring Clean-Up – Weather permitting, we plan to perform our annual spring outside clean-up on ***Saturday, 3/21/15, starting @ 9 am***, after the men’s breakfast, and ending no later than Noon. We will be cleaning gutters, pruning the rear hedges, raking up leaves, etc. Bring your gloves and tools and help us clean up after our harsh winter. The Trustees.

LWML Mite-y Noisy Can Collection will be on March 21/22 because the fifth Sunday in March will be Palm Sunday. Please bring your coins/bills. Thank you.

Senior Fellowship - Come join us for Senior Fellowship **Thursday, March 19th, at 11:00 am**, in the Fellowship Hall. There will be a brief Bible study, a game or two, recognition of birthdays and anniversaries, a great time, and a delicious pot luck lunch. If, for some reason you cannot make a dish, bring yourself, there is always plenty of really delicious food.

Craft & Chat – Please join us for a morning of crafting of your choice and fellowship. We meet the third Wednesday of the month (this Wednesday) at 9:30 am in the annex. Please join us if you would like to learn how to knit or crochet or if you just want to sit and chat.

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 are on the Information counter. Don’t miss out on this opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with family and friends! Any questions, please ask Cynthia at mt-cal-dcm@att.net.

Covenant Care Adoption Services will host its annual "Ladies' Night Out" on Thursday, March 26, at 7:00 pm at Shirley Hills Baptist Church in Warner Robins. This year, the evening will feature Jane Jenkins Herlong, followed by a fabulous dessert fellowship! Tickets are \$20 and must be purchased in advance! (*Call 475-4990 or visit AdoptGeorgia.com*)

High School T.A.G. Night: The next High School T.A.G. Night will be Sunday, March 15th, 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!

Sunday School Staff Meeting: This is the month the Sunday School Staff will be working through our next two rotations for Sunday School. We will be meeting Thursday, March 19th, from 6-7:30 in the Education Wing.

Trivia Night: There will be a TRIVIA NIGHT for our young adults (30ish & younger) on Friday, March 27th, from 5-7 pm (Please note the date change from the March newsletter). There will be a tip jar to help cover expenses but the event is free, sponsored by the SLDT. Childcare will be provided!

Middle School Bowling: All Middle School Youth are encouraged to join us on Saturday, March 28th, from Noon-3 pm for an afternoon of bowling. The cost is \$10/person and covers lunch, bowling, and shoe rental.

Easter Breakfast! Mark your family calendar to join us Easter Morning (April 5th) between 7:30 & 9:00 in the Fellowship Hall for our annual Easter Breakfast fund-raiser. 100% of the profits from this year's breakfast go to lower the cost of this summer's mission trip to Nashville. Breakfast will include scrambled eggs, pancakes, sausage, bacon, biscuits & gravy, muffins, fresh fruit, coffee and OJ. We hope you can join us for a time of celebration & fellowship Easter morning!

High School Outreach Party: The next Outreach Party for High School Youth is Saturday, March 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!

Golf Tournament: The annual Mount Calvary Lutheran Church Golf Tournament fund-raiser is scheduled for Sunday, April 26th. Lunch will be served at 1:00 and tee-off is at 2:00. The cost is \$45/player which includes lunch, driving range balls, and an 18-hole scramble tournament. Scoring aids are available at check-in (mulligans-3/\$5, red-bombs-\$5, & free throws-\$10). This fund-raiser benefits the Youth Ministry program of our church.

Mission Trip Registration Is Open: Registration for "Linked," The 2015 High School Mission Trip to Nashville, Tennessee, 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

Angleen Trasmer, who is having an "at risk" pregnancy.

Doris Snow, who is hospitalized.

Peggy Barkley, former member, who is recovering from neck surgery.

Carl Brighton, Pastor's father, is recovering from hernia surgery.

Jimmy Martin, Sr., Jimmy's father, who is recovering from shoulder surgery.

Molly Keister, for full healing of the surgery site and rehabilitation of her new hip.

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

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

Keep In Your Prayers

Ray Wachter (Marcia Brighton's uncle), Johanna Wachter (Marcia Brighton's aunt), Carol Quednow, Joyce Boone (our former Wednesday Night cook), John Hunter, Connie Kinsey, Antonio Kong (Evy Keyes' father), Josie Kong (Evy Keyes' mother), Pastor Ed Meyer & 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: Vicar Kevin Thomson. **LITURGIST:** Vicar Kevin Thomson. **ELDERS:** Darron Counselman (Sun 8 am) and James Bozarth (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Garrett Counselman (8 am) & Tyler Longbine (10:45 am). **USHERS:** Early – Laird Van Gorder, Brent Durbin, Dick Kesler & Kent Hansen. Late – Cameron Mastenbrook, Caleb Nelson, Austin Burnette, Sean Palmer & Brandon Bodony. **ALTAR GUILD:** Lois Harter, Melinda Hopf, Ruth Miller, Suzanne O'Daniel & Maureen Young. **LAY READERS:** Laird Van Gorder (8 am) and Julie Dimes (10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Gary Webb. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Open (8 am) and Open (10:45 am).

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: D. J. Nelson (Wed 7 pm), Bob Gerstenberger (Sat 6 pm), Laird Van Gorder (Sun 8 am) and Bill Gragg (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Nathan LeBorrious (Wed 7 pm), Chase McVay (Sat 6 pm), Carolyn Harper (Sun 8 am) and Breanna Cook (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Lois Harter, Melinda Hopf, Ruth Miller, Suzanne O'Daniel & Maureen Young. **LAY READERS:** Dave Harter (7 pm), John Trichinotis (Sat 6 pm), Kathy Robinson (Sun 8 am) and Barbara Mabee (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Caroline Martin (Sun 8 am) and Bill & Arlene Zeuner (Sun 10:45 am).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

1 Kings 18:22-40, 19:1-3a, 13b-18 and Hebrews 5:7-10

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday – 62 Early – 69 Late – 147 Total – 278
Wednesday - 106

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Today	6:30 pm	TAG Night
Monday	6:20 pm	Evangelism Callers
	6:30 pm	Women's Small Group
Tuesday	6:30 pm	Elder Visits
Wednesday	9:30 am	Craft & Chat
	6:00 pm	Dinner
	7:00 pm	Worship (Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal afterwards)
Thursday	9:30 am	Mom's Play Group
	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
	11:00 am	Senior Fellowship
Saturday	6:00 pm	Sunday School Staff Meeting
	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast
Next Sunday	12 – 3 pm	Middle School Bowling
	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
	6:30 pm	SLDT Meeting