

As We Gather

The Puritans who first came in 1620 saw America as a sort of promised land, given to them by God. Throughout the history of our country, Americans have enjoyed rich gifts granted by our bountiful God. As Christians, we believe that while America continues to be seen as a promised land by "your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free," the eternal Promised Land, heaven, still awaits us. Today, as we thank God for the blessings of our great nation, we have an opportunity to implore His forgiveness for our personal and national faults, ask His blessings and guidance for the future of the republic, and then look ahead by faith to the eternal Promised Land, made sure by the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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:***"Before You, Lord, We Bow"***Hymn #966****PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG**

In 1892 Congress decreed that the red in the flag of the United States of America should stand for hardiness and courage, the white for purity, and the blue for vigilance, perseverance, and justice. Let us pledge our allegiance to our nation's flag.

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

PLEDGE TO THE CHRISTIAN FLAG

The white in the Christian flag stands for the righteousness of Christ which is ours by faith, the blue for faith and hope, and the red cross for Christ's shed blood and saving sacrifice on Calvary. Let us pledge our allegiance to the Christian flag.

I pledge allegiance to the Christian flag, and to the God for whose Kingdom it stands; one Savior, Jesus Christ, crucified, risen, and coming again, with true life and liberty for all.

THE INVOCATION

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

Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God has blessed us so generously. We are living in America in the twenty-first century. But, just as our national and spiritual forbearers, we have not always thought, spoken, or acted in thankfulness and praise. For Jesus' sake, though, there is abundant grace and forgiveness. Let us therefore confess our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

(please kneel)

Gracious God,

We confess that we are sinful by nature and that in life we have ignored Your many blessings in this land of promise. We have taken our lot in life as a deserved benefit and let our pride cover our faults and failings. We have been content to receive the freedom and prosperity of this land without giving You thanks and praise. We have failed to share Your bounty with those in our society less fortunate than ourselves, preferring to put our own comfort before our brothers' urgent needs. We have let the morality of the society around us speak louder than Your Word and will for us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake. Turn our hearts to Your will and our eyes to Your eternal promises. Open doors of opportunity in which we may reflect Your truth, mercy, and love in our sojourn until we enter the eternal Promised Land.

Our Lord Jesus took all our sins with Him to the cross. The Father accepted His sacrifice on our behalf. By His death Christ destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored us to everlasting life. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Walk as children of promise to the praise of His holy name each day of your pilgrimage on earth.

Amen.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE:

"God of Our Fathers"

**God of our fathers, whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies:
Our grateful songs before Your throne arise.**

**Your love divine has led us in the past;
In this free land by You our lot is cast;
Oh, be our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay;
Your Word our law, Your paths our chosen way.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Lord over all, You ordain the powers that be in the kingdoms of this world. Order our days in peace, guide our leaders, and prosper the Church, Your kingdom of grace, here in this great land; 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: Deuteronomy 8:10-18 (*Moses warns the Israelites not to forget God when they settle down and enjoy all the blessings of the Promised Land.*)

¹⁰ And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.

¹¹ "Take care lest you forget the LORD your God by not keeping his commandments and his rules and his statutes, which I command you today, ¹² lest, when you have eaten and are full and have built good houses and live in them, ¹³ and when your herds and flocks multiply and your silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied, ¹⁴ then your heart be lifted up, and you forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, ¹⁵ who led you through the great and terrifying wilderness, with its fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty ground where there was no water, who brought you water out of the flinty rock, ¹⁶ who fed you in the wilderness with manna that your fathers did not know, that he might humble you and test you, to do you good in the end. ¹⁷ Beware lest you say in your heart, 'My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.' ¹⁸ You shall remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day. ¹⁹ And if you forget the LORD your God and go after other gods and serve them and worship them, I solemnly warn you today that you shall surely perish. ²⁰ Like the nations that the LORD makes to perish before you, so shall you perish, because you would not obey the voice of the LORD your God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING: 1 Peter 2:11–17 (*En route to our Promised Land, freedom dare not be misused.*)

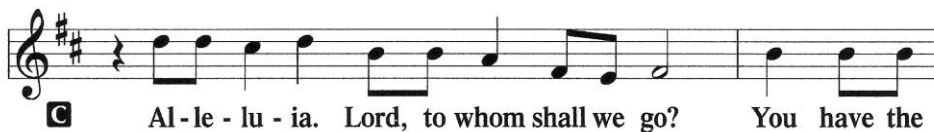
¹¹ Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. ¹² Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

¹³ Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, ¹⁴ or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. ¹⁵ For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. ¹⁶ Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. ¹⁷ Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE ALLELUIA VERSE:





words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL IS ANNOUNCED:

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the twelfth chapter.



Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 12:13–17 (*Jesus says to give God His due and give the government its due.*)

¹³ And they sent to him some of the Pharisees and some of the Herodians, to trap him in his talk. ¹⁴ And they came and said to him, "Teacher, we know that you are true and do not care about anyone's opinion. For you are not swayed by appearances, but truly teach the way of God. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not? Should we pay them, or should we not?" ¹⁵ But, knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, "Why put me to the test? Bring me a denarius and let me look at it." ¹⁶ And they brought one. And he said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" They said to him, "Caesar's." ¹⁷ Jesus said to them, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." And they marveled at him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to You, O Christ.

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

Pastor Brighton

THE HYMN OF THE DAY:

"God, Bless Our Native Land"

Hymn #965

THE MESSAGE:

"In God We Trust?"

Pastor David Brighton

THE NICENE CREED:

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

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 ++

**The Pentecost season is the "non-festival" time of the Church year.
It is the time for the Church to grow in faith and to go make disciples!
"Go and make disciples of all nations!" (Matthew 38:19)**

OFFERTORY HYMN: "*We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator*"

**We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You;
We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.**

**With voices united our praises we offer
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.
To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!**

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, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. 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:

<i>"Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray"</i>	Hymn #623
<i>"What Is This Bread"</i>	Hymn #629
<i>"Lord Of All Nations, Grant Me Grace"</i>	Hymn #844

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

We give thanks, Lord our God, for You have again refreshed us on our pilgrim way. Grant us to live each day in this blessed land as citizens of Your kingdom of grace until we enter the Promised Land in which faith has turned to sight; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, 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:

"America the Beautiful"

**O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain.
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.**

**O beautiful for pilgrim feet
Whose stern impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat
Across the wilderness.
America! America!
God mend thine ev'ry flaw,
Confirm thy soul with self control
Thy liberty in law.**

**O beautiful for heroes proved
In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved,
And mercy more than life.
America! America!
May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness,
And ev'ry gain divine.**

**O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.**

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Altar Flowers were provided this week by Doug & Deb Fingles, in honor of Jenny and Patrick's birthdays.

THANK YOU! We want to thank you all very much. To those who spent so much time and effort planning such a wonderful shower. To those who attended the shower and made it a fun time. And to those who have showered us with wonderful gifts and love. Thank you all for your support as we prepare to welcome our little baby Thomson into this world. -Vicar Kevin and Jordan

Members of the Week Jeff and Sheila Grube recently celebrated their 42nd wedding anniversary. They were married on June 10th, 1973 at Faith Lutheran Church in Warner Robins. They joined Mt. Calvary in the mid 80's, along with Jeff's mother, Lena, and 3 brothers, Danny, Chris and Toby. Jeff and Sheila have 3 children, Allison Gregory, Rachel Toler and Matthew Grube. They are also blessed to have 2 grandsons and 2 granddaughters; Billy Jack and Thomas Gregory, and Carlee and Kara Toler. Jeff and Sheila are "always running and jumping after the many activities of the grandchildren." Jeff is a self-employed attorney, while "Sheila is in charge of everything else."

Vicar Kevin Thomson's Farewell Potluck Luncheon is scheduled for 12 July after the late service. Please sign up on the potluck attendance sheets located on the information desk.

Mission Trip Reunion/Pool Party/Cook-Out: While this event is the "official" wrap up for our Mission Trip, ALL High School youth are welcome to join us. The party is on Wednesday, June 8th, from 5-8 pm. The location has yet to be determined, so watch for upcoming details.

Deployed or TDY Pictures are needed: Pete needs picture of all military personnel & civilian contractors who were out of town in the service of their country when the directory pictures were being taken. Digital copies of personal pictures will work the best. Please let Pete know you would like your military person included in this section of the director and get him the picture as soon as possible!

High School TAG Night: This Sunday, July 5th, 6:30-8:30 in the annex the High School Youth will be gathering for an evening of food, fun, fellowship, and a Bible-centered discussion on living out their faith.

High School Pool Party: This Tuesday, July 7th, from 5-8 pm at the Eagle Springs pool. This party serves several purposes: a reunion marking 1 month since our Mission Trip ended, the night we give the graduates their yearbooks, and a chance to get together for dinner, swimming, and just hanging out. This event is open to ALL High School Youth, not just Mission Trip participants. We hope to see you all there!

TAG Trip to Six Flags: Both the Middle & High School groups will be going to Six Flags on Wednesday, July 15th. We will meet at the Annex at 8:00 am and should return around 5:30. The cost for the day is \$30/person plus money for lunch. You must sign-up for this trip (even if you have a season pass) so Pete can be sure to have enough drivers!

Looking for a place to "fit in" at church? The Altar Guild can always use a few more hands, especially in the summer months. What does Altar Guild do? Well, there are six teams of ladies (4-5 on each team), that work about every 3 months for 2 weeks in a row. They make sure the altar is clean and prepared for each service. That means filling candles, preparing for communion, changing the colors of the paraments on the altar when needed, etc. We have wonderful teams of ladies, and you would have LOTS of help working with a group as you learn what needs to be done. If interested, contact Ruthie Radcliff at 397-0630 or bigbluiz@att.net.

Summer Sunday School – Please volunteer to be a summer Sunday School teacher for our Pre-K to 5th grade students. Our regular teachers are on vacation for 2 months, and we need YOU! We have crafts, scrapbooking, Stories with Jesus, movies, and Pre-K. The dates are July 12, July 19, and July 26. If you could help for at least 2 Sundays, that would be great! Please contact Cynthia Nelson at mt-cal-dcm@att.net or leave a note in her DCM mailbox. Thank you for teaching our Kids for Christ!!

PRAYER CONCERNS

Patti Griswold, who is recovering from surgery.

Tricia Nicolosi, who is recovering from viral meningitis.

Isabella Rose Aden, Jim & Ruth's daughter-in-law, who is recovering from shoulder surgery.

Keep In Your Prayers

Sherry Parsons, Barb Mabee, Kurt Rover, Jay Wallace (son of James & Emily Wallace), Rosie Schulz, Fred Tamer, Dave Radcliff, Jeanene Crawford, Arnie Reule, Carol Quednow, Heather Yarbrough and 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: Margaret Frazier, Mary Jahnke (Joe's sister), Barry Rice (Becky McVay's brother), Norma Young (Melinda Hopf's aunt), John Hoar, Paula Babcock, Kathy Grube, Chet Branscom, Jace Cumbie (son of Amanda McVay's boyfriend), Mary Schwope (Michele Durbin's aunt), Jeannette Poniske (Fred Tamer's mom), Bruce Oswalt (Krystal Ferguson's father), Gary Jennings (Margaret Jennings' son), Elaine Mead (Jeannie Hawkins' aunt) and Fred Diehl.

Those Serving our Country in Dangerous Areas

J. T. Cole, 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:** Vicar Kevin Thomson. **ELDERS:** Bob Yeager (8 am) and Laird Van Gorder (10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Carolyn Harper (8 am) and Tyler Longbine (10:45 am). **USHERS:** Early – Laird Van Gorder, Brent Durbin, Dick Kesler & Kent Hansen. Late – D. J. Nelson, Don Netzinger, Adam Beecher, Dave Miller, Bob Day & Larry Ellgass. **ALTAR GUILD:** Cindy Branham, Anita McIntyre, Jo Ann Smith & Arlene Zeuner. **LAY READERS:** Linna Nielsen (8 am) and Tyler Hudlin (10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Gary Webb. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Louis Foss (8 am) and Sean Palmer (10:45 am).

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: Open (Sat 6 pm), Brian Harper (Sun 8 am) and John Hunter (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Chase McVay (Sat 6 pm), Andrew LeBorious (8 am) and Breanna Cook (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Sue Glaser, Barbara Mabee, Ginger Martin, Kathy Robinson & Sharon Suckow. **LAY READERS:** Rob Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Dick Kesler (Sun 8 am) and D. J. Nelson (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Bob & Cindy Reynolds (Sun 8 am) and Dwight & Marlene Miller (Sun 10:45 am).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Amos 7:7-15 and Ephesians 1:3-14

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday – 42 Early – 84 Late – 132 Total – 258

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	Praise Team Rehearsal
	6:30 pm	Boards
	7:30 pm	Elders
Wednesday	5 – 8 pm	Mission Trip Reunion & Pool Party
Thursday	9:30 am	Mom's Play Group
	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
Friday	6 – 9 pm	Middle School Party
Saturday	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
Next Sunday	12:00 pm	Vicar Kevin's Farewell Luncheon