

**As We Gather**

Marriage. It's a hot topic in the news these days with the Supreme Court decision that legalized gay marriage. Today we look beyond all the hype as we hear Paul's words to the Ephesians that describe the true and proper relationship of husband and wife before God. For those who are married, for those who may one day marry, for those who are no longer married through death of divorce, or for those who may never marry, Paul's words are both challenging and refreshing for us as we seek to live our lives in a God-pleasing manner – and the home is where it all starts!

**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:***"Today Your Mercy Calls Us"***Hymn #915****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 draw near to God with repentance and faith, trusting His promise to draw near to us with forgiveness and life.

*(please kneel)*

Gracious Father,

**You gather us together in Your family through faith in Jesus Christ. We are Your children, brothers and sisters in Christ. Yet by our fallen sinful nature and by our own disobedience, we have in word and actions turned away from You, our loving God, and turned our backs on our fellow members. Forgive us, Father, for Jesus, our Brother, has paid for our sins. You gather us together in families as mothers, fathers, sons, and daughters. You have placed us in our families to be loved and cared for and to love and care for one another. Yet by our fallen sinful nature and by our own disobedience, we have in word and actions failed to love our own family members as You have loved us. Forgive us, Father, for Jesus, our Brother, has paid for our sins.**

Children of God, loved by the Lord, Jesus Christ has indeed taken Your sins to the cross and paid for every one. By His resurrection from the dead He raises you from death in your sins to life in His forgiveness. By the power of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. God strengthen you in His love and forgiveness that you may share those blessings in your family and in the family of God.

**Amen.**

**THE HYMN OF PRAISE: "Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices"**

**Oh that I had a thousand voices  
To praise my God with thousand tongues!  
My heart, which in the Lord rejoices,  
Would then proclaim in grateful songs  
To all, wherever I might be  
What great things God has done for me.**

**All creatures that have breath and motion,  
That throng the earth, the sea, the sky,  
Come, share with me my heart's devotion,  
Help me to sing God's praises high.  
My utmost pow'rs can never quite  
Declare the wonders of His might.**

**THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. O God, merciful Father, You draw us close to Yourself through the gift of Your own Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior. We are Your forgiven children. Draw us, in like manner, close to one another as brothers and sisters in Christ, forgiven and forgiving, loved and loving, in all our ways.

**Amen.**

*(Please be seated.)*

**THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 29:11–19** *(God threatens to bring judgment on His people if they do not repent.)*

<sup>11</sup> And the vision of all this has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed. When men give it to one who can read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot, for it is sealed." <sup>12</sup> And when they give the book to one who cannot read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot read."

<sup>13</sup> And the Lord said: "Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men, <sup>14</sup> therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder; and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden."

<sup>15</sup> Ah, you who hide deep from the LORD your counsel, whose deeds are in the dark, and who say, "Who sees us? Who knows us?" <sup>16</sup> You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay, that the thing made should say of its maker, "He did not make me"; or the thing formed say of him who formed it, "He has no understanding"?

<sup>17</sup> Is it not yet a very little while until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest? <sup>18</sup> In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book, and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see. <sup>19</sup> The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the LORD, and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**THE EPISTLE READING: Ephesians 5:21–33** *(Paul outlines the proper relationship between husband and wife, based on Christ's relationship with His bride, the Church.)*

<sup>22</sup> Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. <sup>23</sup> For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. <sup>24</sup> Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

<sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, <sup>26</sup> that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, <sup>27</sup> so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. <sup>28</sup> In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. <sup>29</sup> For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, <sup>30</sup> because we are members of his body. <sup>31</sup> "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." <sup>32</sup> This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. <sup>33</sup> However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**THE ALLELUIA VERSE:**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



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 seventh chapter.



Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

**THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 7:1–13** (*Jesus rebukes the scribes and Pharisees for replacing God's Law with their traditions.*)

<sup>1</sup> Now when the Pharisees gathered to him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. <sup>3</sup> (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders, <sup>4</sup> and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) <sup>5</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" <sup>6</sup> And he said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, "'This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; <sup>7</sup> in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'" <sup>8</sup> You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men." <sup>9</sup> And he said to them, "You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! <sup>10</sup> For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.' <sup>11</sup> But you say, 'If a man tells his father or his mother, "Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban"' (that is, given to God)— <sup>12</sup> then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, <sup>13</sup> thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

**THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:**

Vicar Tim Staffeld

**THE HYMN OF THE DAY:**

*"Oh, Blest the House"*

**Hymn #862**

**THE MESSAGE:**

**"This Thing Called Marriage"**

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"*

**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 beneficial that we should give You thanks, O Lord, heavenly Father, for You have rescued us aliens and orphans from wretched homelessness and despair and brought us into Your family through the sacrifice of Your own beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Likewise, and through that same sacrifice, You have made us brothers and sisters of Christ and of one another to Your eternal praise and glory. Therefore, with all of Your family on earth and in heaven we honor and proclaim Your holy name, evermore praising You and singing:

**C** 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



**Members of the Week: Richard & Donna Uitto** have been members of Mt. Calvary since 2006, and enjoy the friendly people who attend here. Richard grew up in Ashtabula, Ohio. He enlisted in the Air Force in 1964 and in 1967 he was assigned to Robins AFB. Donna grew up in Johnson City, Tennessee, but in 1964 her father came to Warner Robins to work. Richard and Donna met while taking college classes and were married in 1968. Richard started working Civil Service in 1969 as a tool maker, and retired from that in 2001. Donna started working as a book keeper in 1966 and retired from that profession in 2010. But, God had other important work for them to do! They became Laborers for Christ, which meant they helped build or renovate Lutheran churches in different parts of the country. They worked on a total of 6 projects! Richard enjoys woodworking, golf, reading and exercising. Donna likes to read, crochet and also exercise. They have one daughter, Jean Evans and one granddaughter, Kayla Evans, who live with them.

**LWML Mite-y Noisy Can Collection** will be next weekend, so bring your coins/bills. Thank you.

**Newsletter Deadline:** Please have all items for the September Newsletter in to the office by August 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Thank You to the person who donated a large bag of brand new eyeglass frames** for MOST ministries (Mission Opportunities Short Term)! I was overwhelmed by the number of little children's frames! Having been on two eyeglass mission trips, I know that trying to find frames small enough for children was always difficult. My heart is so happy with the large number of small children's frames! Thank you so much, mystery donor! - Deb Fingles

**Night of Worship** is being sponsored by our Caring Solutions Pregnancy Center on September 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm, held at Mabel White Baptist Church in Macon (1415 Bass Road). Local church choirs will provide a powerful evening of worship!

**WAR ROOM is an upcoming Christian drama film** directed by Alex Kendrick and produced by his brother Stephen Kendrick, from Sherwood Baptist Church, Albany, GA. You may remember their films "Flywheel" (2003), "Facing the Giants" (2006), "Fireproof" (2008), and "Courageous" (2011). "With great jobs, a beautiful daughter (Alena Pitts) and a dream house, the Jordan's seem to have it all. Appearances can be deceiving, however, as husband Tony (T.C. Stallings) flirts with temptation and wife Elizabeth (Priscilla Shirer) becomes increasingly bitter, crumbling under the strain of a failing marriage. Their lives take an unexpected turn for the better when Elizabeth meets her newest client, Miss Clara (Karen Abercrombie), who encourages the couple to find happiness through prayer". Famous Christian author Beth Moore is also in the film. Rated PG, 2 hours. Showing at Galleria 15 Cinemas in Warner Robins August 27, 28, 29, and 30 at 7:00 pm and 9:45 pm, and the same dates at AmStar 16 in Macon with times 7:00 pm and 10:00 pm. PRAYER IS POWERFUL!

**Concordia Bible Sale** – If you've been thinking about getting a study Bible or one of the other myriad Bibles from Concordia, this is the time to do it. There's no hurry because the sale runs from now through September. You can save up to 33% on the Bibles. We have a listing and descriptions of the available Bibles (currently in the office). When Pastor Brighton returns from vacation, we'll decide how and where to display the information for the best dissemination. This notice is just a heads up for you to start thinking about it.

**New Church Directories have been printed!** They are available at the Information Desk. The Church Officers and the members of each of our boards are listed on the inside of the cover. The e-mail addresses of all staff members are listed on the back of the directory.

**Thank you for all the prayers,** cards and food that you helped us with in the last year. Chet started on new medication Monday, so we still need the prayers coming. - Chet & Nancy Branscom

**August is the month to annually re-enroll in the Kroger Community Rewards Program.** Go to kroger.com to re-enroll (or enroll) to support Family Promise, # 76557. Thank you for taking a few minutes to do this. Family Promise received \$587 since they became a part of the program. Every penny adds up.

### **PRAYER CONCERNS**

**Ken Reilly**, who continues his battle with cancer.

**Marrissa Halsell**, daughter of Walt and Cheryl Stafford, who has been diagnosed with multiple sclerosis.

**Courage Trasmer**, thanks that she has been transferred from Atlanta to the NICU at Children's Hospital in Macon.

### **Keep In Your Prayers**

Ray Snow, Doug Hartman, Larry Ellgass, Josie Kong, Tony Kong, Annie Hyde, Sherry Parsons, Lorraine Jenson, Karen Harmon 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), 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**

Chris Walker, 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 Tim Staffeld. **ELDERS:** Brian Harper (8 am) and Bob Gerstenberger (10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Nathan LeBoribus (8 am) and Maddy Hagemann (10:45 am). **USHERS:** Early – Brian Harper, David Rossman, Bob Yeager & Richard Uitto. Late – Mike Hopf, Bruce Bauman, Dave Harter, Ed Bodony & Earl Bogardus. **ALTAR GUILD:** Marcia Brighton, Valerie Counselman, Denise Forehand & Nancy Hoar. **LAY READERS:** Lexie Hadley (8 am) and John Hunter (10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Debi Cole. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Tanner Gossman (8 am) and Josh Johnson (10:45 am).

**SERVING US NEXT WEEK**

**ELDERS:** Rob Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Open (Sun 8 am) and D. J. Nelson (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Christopher Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Colton Durbin (8 am) and Tyler Longbine (10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Marcia Brighton, Valerie Counselman, Denise Forehand & Nancy Hoar. **LAY READERS:** Rhoda Reilly (Sat 6 pm), Darron Counselman (8 am) and Adam Beecher (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Gary & Lexie Hadley (Sun 8 am) and Paul & Dottie Brown (Sun 10:45 am).

**NEXT WEEK’S READINGS**

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 and Ephesians 6:10-20

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK**

**Saturday – 50 Early – 79 Late – 171 Total – 300**

**THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Staff Retreat</b>	
	6:20 pm	Evangelism Callers
	6:30 pm	Women’s Small Group
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Staff Retreat</b>	
	6:30 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
Wednesday	5:30 pm	Dinner
	6:00 pm	Adult Bible Classes
	6:15 pm	Children/Youth Classes
Thursday	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
Saturday	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
Next Sunday	6:30 pm	SLDT Meeting