

As We Gather

In 1943, General George Patton said, "It is absurd to believe that soldiers who cannot be made to wear the proper uniform can be induced to move forward in battle." As we gather today, we stand as soldiers of the cross to receive God's grace in His Word. Having won the battle over sin and death, Jesus comes near to you today to clothe you in the uniform of His righteousness and outfit you in the whole armor of God. The One whose foot crushed the head of the serpent is the One who forgives and renews you today. The peace He gives is what we stand "on our feet" to receive and then move forward into the world to share.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

OPENING HYMN:

"This Is the Day the Lord Has Made"

Hymn #903

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

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Let us then 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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

THE KYRIE

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE:

"Gloria In Excelsis"

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord,



You a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty God, You draw near to us in Word and Sacrament and promise that You will never leave us nor forsake us. Give to Your people the gospel of peace that we may stand strong in our faith and share in Your eternal victory; 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 4:1–2, 6–9 *(God’s Word gives wisdom.)*

¹“And now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the rules that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. ²You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you. ⁶Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’ ⁷For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is to us, whenever we call upon him? ⁸And what great nation is there, that has statutes and rules so righteous as all this law that I set before you today?

⁹“Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children’s children.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

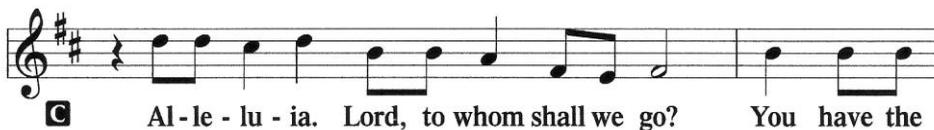
THE EPISTLE READING: Ephesians 6:10–20 *(We are outfitted with the armor of God.)*

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵ and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷ and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, ¹⁸ praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, ¹⁹ and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

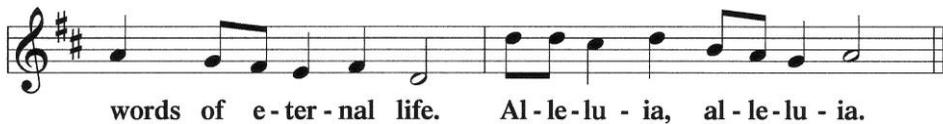
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Thanks be to God.

THE ALLELUIA VERSE:

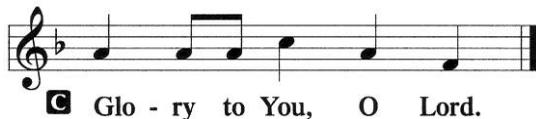


Al-le-lu-ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



THE HOLY GOSPEL IS ANNOUNCED:

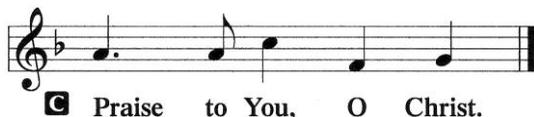
The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the seventh chapter.



THE GOSPEL: Mark 7:14–23 (*Jesus teaches what truly defiles a person.*)

¹⁴ And he called the people to him again and ¹⁴ said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵ There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him." ¹⁷ And when he had entered the house and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable. ¹⁸ And he said to them, "Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, ¹⁹ since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?" (Thus he declared all foods clean.) ²⁰ And he said, "What comes out of a person is what defiles him. ²¹ For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, ²² coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

Mt. Calvary Puppet Ministry

THE HYMN OF THE DAY:

"God Himself Is Present"

Hymn #907

THE MESSAGE

"God is Near"

Vicar Tim Staffeld

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

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE MITE-Y NOISY CAN COLLECTION

(The "noisy" offering of coins is received on months when there is a fifth Sunday. This offering makes a lot of "noise" in the mission work of our Lutheran Women's Missionary League that it helps to support!)

++ 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:

"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 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:

"Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus"

Hymn #660

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Altar Flowers were provided this week by Suzanne O'Daniel, in loving memory of her husband, Rich, and of their wedding anniversary.

Night of Worship is being sponsored by our Caring Solutions Pregnancy Center on September 12th 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!

Ladies Guild will meet at 9:30 am, August 31st due to their regular date falling on Labor Day.

Members of the Week: Frank & Donna Burkhardt have been members of Mt. Calvary since 2008. They met in Sunday School at Faith Lutheran Church where Donna's parents, Bill and Arlene Zeuner were members at the time. They have been married for 26 years and have 2 children; Karl and Jennifer. Karl, graduate of GA Tech; is married and living in Austin, TX, where he is a graduate student at the University of Texas. Jennifer is in her second year at GA Tech majoring in materials science engineering. Frank is a web applications manager at Blue Bird. Donna teaches at Lake Joy Elementary. Frank helps with the youth on Wednesday nights and Donna is currently serving as council reporter.

We would like to thank our Mt Calvary family for their cards, prayers and good wishes following my recent surgery and the accident which befell our son and his family. We greatly appreciate your concern and were uplifted by it. - Larry & Bev Ellgass

Get Your Flu Shots Here! After our worship services on Saturday, September 12th and Sunday, September 13th, Heather Yarbrough (pharmacist at CVS and member of Mt. Calvary) will be giving flu shots. Most insurances will cover this 100%, so be sure and bring your insurance cards. Sign-up sheets are at the Information Counter.

Our Ushers for September will be: Early – Don Parrott, Ralph Wenrick, Dale Hawkins & Roger Foss. Late – Paul Ferguson, Sam Culpepper, Dale Channell, Champ Aldredge & Mark Burnette

We are deeply grateful to our Mt Calvary family for your prayers and support during Tessa's recent illness. - Eric & Dina Gossman.

September is Stewardship month. During the month we will have weekly inserts in the bulletin and we will have slides to show you our work. Our verse for our Stewardship month is Colossians 3:37: "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." We want to show you that stewardship is more than money. As our District says more or less, "It is about using life and all of life's resources for the glory of God." Every business needs money to run, this is a fact, but what would that business be like if it didn't have people working? God has blessed us all, and I mean all, with gifts of the Spirit that we are to use for the good of His work. We want to encourage you to use those gifts.

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

John Hoar, who is at home receiving hospice care.

Anne Harter, daughter of Dick & Susan Kesler, who is battling cancer.

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 is now at home.

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: Vicar Tim Staffeld. **LITURGIST:** Pastor David Brighton. **ELDERS:** Open (8 am) and D. J. Nelson (10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Colton Durbin (8 am) and Tyler Longbine (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:** Darron Counselman (8 am) and Adam Beecher (10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Debi Cole. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Tanner Gossman (8 am) and Josh Johnson (10:45 am).

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: Open (Sat 6 pm), Open (Sun 8 am) and Open (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Open (Sat 6 pm), Open (8 am) and Open (10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Lois Harter, Melinda Hopf, Ruth Miller, Suzanne O'Daniel & Maureen Young. **LAY READERS:** Debi Cole (Sat 6 pm), Rich Losert (8 am) and Barb Mabee (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Caroline Martin (Sun 8 am) and Barb Mabee (Sun 10:45 am).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Isaiah 35:4-7a and James 2:1-10, 14-18

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday – 58 Early – 99 Late – 166 Total – 323

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Sunday	6:30	SLDT Meeting
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	9:30 am	Morning Glories
	5:30 pm	Dinner
	6:00 pm	Adult Bible Classes
	6:15 pm	Children/Youth Classes
	7:30 pm	Sanctuary Choir
Thursday	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
Friday	6 – 9 pm	Middle School Party
Saturday	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
Next Sunday	6:30 pm	TAG Night



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.