

As We Gather

In our Epistle reading today, James continues his letter of instruction for those Christians who have been scattered abroad by persecution. In America in the 21st century, persecution of Christians is also on the rise – though certainly not as a threat to our physical safety as in James' day. Even so, how are we to respond when people tear down our faith and our Savior? Indeed, how are we to use our tongue when a family member or friend says something mean or something we don't agree with? James gives us wise advice on the use of our tongue. May we take his words to heart!

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

OPENING HYMN:

"Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear"

Hymn #908

THE INVOCATION

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

Amen.

HOLY BAPTISM: (8:00 am)

Marissa, Cody and Abigail Halsell

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,

I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your present and eternal punishment. By nature, I am a sinful creature. By thought, word, and deed I have continually transgressed Your Law. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all of my sins, and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life. 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.

HYMN OF PRAISE:

"Oh, For A Thousand Tongues To Sing"

**Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace!**

**My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad,
The honors of Thy name.**

**To God all glory, praise, and love
Be now and ever giv'n
By saints below and saints above,
The Church in earth and heav'n.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, our strength and support in all situations, grant us the power and presence of Your Holy Spirit that we may be certain of Your abiding presence. Teach us to use our tongue in a way that shows Your love and grace to our family member, friends, and everyone we meet; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Please be seated.)

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 50:4–10 *(God's people are encouraged by the prophet.)*

⁴The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught.

⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting.

⁷But the Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. ⁸He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me.

⁹Behold, the Lord GOD helps me; who will declare me guilty? Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up. ¹⁰Who among you fears the LORD and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the LORD and rely on his God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING: James 3:1–12 (*Counsel regarding the use of the tongue.*)

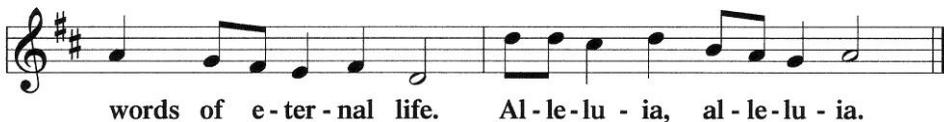
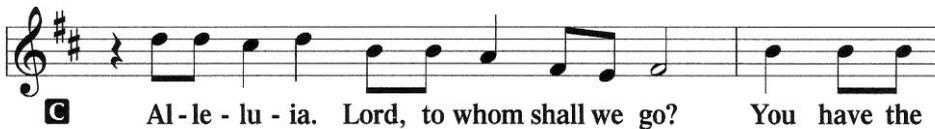
¹ Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ² For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. ³ If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. ⁴ Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵ So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

⁶ And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. ⁷ For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, ⁸ but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹ With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰ From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. ¹¹ Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? ¹² Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

This is the Word of the Lord.

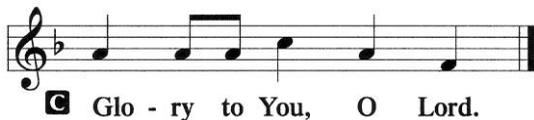
Thanks be to God.

THE ALLELUIA VERSE:



THE HOLY GOSPEL IS ANNOUNCED:

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



THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 9:14–29 (*A child with an unclean spirit is healed.*)

¹⁴ And when they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. ¹⁵ And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to him and greeted him. ¹⁶ And he asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?"

¹⁷ And someone from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. ¹⁸ And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." ¹⁹ And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." ²⁰ And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. ²¹ And Jesus asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. ²² And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." ²³ And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible for one who believes." ²⁴ Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" ²⁵ And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again." ²⁶ And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead." ²⁷ But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. ²⁸ And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" ²⁹ And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



THE CHILDRENS MESSAGE

Pete LeBorious
Director of Christian Education

SONGS BY SUNDAY SCHOOL KIDS: "Go, Ye Into The World," "O Sing To The Lord"

HYMN OF THE DAY "Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens"

Hymn #589

THE MESSAGE "Open Your Mouth & Stick Out Your Tongue" Pastor David Brighton

THE APOSTLES' CREED: (10:45 am service only)

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 ++

**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)

THE OFFERTORY: *"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 voice and let me sing
Always only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee**

**Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.**

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 (10:45 am service only)

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

Amen.

THE CLOSING HYMN: *"Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise"* **Hymn #917**

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mount Calvary has received gifts in memory of John Hoar from the Mt Calvary Ladies Guild, Libby McCarty, Riley Hood, Bill & Carol Quednow, Don & Judy Parrott and Dwight & Marlene Miller.

Member of the Week: Linda Phillips was born and raised in the SW area of Philadelphia, PA. She went to college in Savannah, GA, majoring in Accounting. Savannah and Trinity Lutheran Church in Savannah were home for her for 30 years. Retirement from a successful career in real estate banking allowed her to move to Warner Robins in April, 2014. She is fortunate to live within 5 minutes of her daughters. The Lord blessed Linda with 3 daughters; Michele (deceased), Debra and Roberta, and 2 great sons-in-law. She has 5 super grandchildren; 2 boys, Kyle and Parker and 3 girls, Alyssa, Abigail and Savannah. They are 5 great reasons to love retirement! Linda enjoys reading and is a member of the Book Browsers Book Club. Other hobbies she has are knitting, crocheting, sewing and crafting. She is active in LWML, Co-chairperson for the Linus Project, on the committee for the Bazaar, and is also in the Bell Choir and the Sanctuary Choir. She says, "God has blessed my move in so many ways, including my new, great church and loving, caring church family of Mt. Calvary.

Dear Mount Calvary family - we would like to thank you for your prayers, help, gifts, and meals over the last couple of weeks since Avin's accident. You have given us such comfort during a difficult time. We feel so blessed to be part of a congregation that loves and serves so well. Praise the Lord for His grace and healing. - *James, Heather, and Avin Bozarth*

Fall Evangelism Explosion Kickoff Lunch - This lunch is for those who are interested in learning more about our evangelism training on Monday evenings. There will be a free lunch provided, a video, and our evangelism callers will share some of their experiences in this training ministry. There is no commitment made or expected for attending this lunch. **We will meet today, September 13th, 12:00 pm, in the Annex.**

Fall Workday – On Saturday September 19th, after the Men's Breakfast and weather permitting, the Trustees will be heading up our FALL workday. We plan to work from approximately 9 am to Noon. Men and women are encouraged to come out and help beautify around our church property. Bring your gloves and clipping tools as we will be cutting and pruning where needed but will mainly work on the overgrowth at the rear of the church.

Senior Fellowship - Come join us for Senior Fellowship **Thursday, September 17th, 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.

Men's Breakfast – Guys! It's time to sign up at the Information Desk for this month's breakfast. We'll meet at 8:00 am in the Michael Fellowship Hall on **Saturday, September 19th**. Join us for good food and fellowship. Those "young men" of high school age and older are invited!

Daytime Callers share Christ's love and concern with shut-ins and others who need to know that we at Mt. Calvary care for them. We meet this Monday, September 14th, in the **church conference room** at **11:00 am**.

The ECGA LWML Zone Rally will be held at Mt Calvary on Saturday, October 3rd. Attendance sign-up sheet is on the information desk. Gifts from the Heart for **Family Promise** are laundry detergent and Walmart gift cards. Make checks payable to **Family Promise**. Registration starts at 9; business meeting at 10:00 and Worship service at 1:30. Cost is \$10, which includes lunch.

Get Your Flu Shots This Weekend! 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.

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.

Ladies' Tea! All the ladies of Mount Calvary (young and old) are invited to join us for a light lunch, lively conversation, and tea THIS Sunday, September 13th, from Noon – 1:30 in the Fellowship Hall. The dress is to be lady-like with a hat (large or small, just wear a hat) – it is tea after all. The cost for the tea is \$5/person to cover our costs. This event is sponsored by the Student Leadership Development Team!

A Missions Committee organizational meeting will be held at *7:00 pm on Thursday, September 17th* in the Conference Room. The Missions Committee will be supporting our short-term mission efforts in Puerto Rico, due to begin next year. Anyone who is interested is invited to attend.

Houston County Habitat for Humanity will be having a Gospel Benefit Concert at the Homer J. Walker Civic Center. The Concert will begin at 6 pm, on 19 September 2015. Come out and support your local Habitat for Humanity with this most worthy fundraiser. The Concert will feature recording artist Emill Bridges, War Town Heroes, and Local Church Choirs. Tickets are only \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door. If you cannot make the concert, please consider purchasing a ticket and it can be given to someone else as a gift. Please contact Rhoda Reilly before 17 September at (478) 333-3198 for tickets and/or donations.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! When we asked for some "over and above" giving to replenish our Alms Fund, y'all responded like you have so often – with great generosity! We now have \$5,745 in our Alms Fund and that should enable us to help those in need in our community for the next half dozen or so years. So thanks again for your great generosity (and that's all you need to give right now)! ☺ Pastor Brighton

ReformationFest and 35th Anniversary of Mount Calvary! Come help us celebrate 35 years of connecting people to Jesus. October 25th, from 1 – 4 pm at Vinson Valley Park in Byron. Sign up at the Information Desk in the narthex.

High School Fall Retreat: This team building retreat will run from 6 pm Friday the 18th through 8:00 pm Saturday the 19th. Our Bible study theme for the weekend is "Living for Christ!" It will be held in the Annex at a cost of only \$25/child to cover meals. Because this is an on-site retreat, youth are encouraged to come for as much of the retreat as they are able to while still participating in school commitments (sports, band, etc.). Just let Pete know when you will be there!

8th Grade Confirmation Workshop: 8th Grade youth preparing for Confirmation next spring will be having a workshop with Pastor to cover the Bible, Law & Gospel, and the 10 Commandments on Sunday, September 29th, from noon – 3 pm in the Annex. There is no cost and lunch will be provided.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Courage Trasmer, who is hospitalized because of weight loss.

Gary Webb, who is home, recovering from a bleeding ulcer.

Monika Reynolds, for continued health concerns.

Avin Bozarth, who is home and making a good recovery from his burns.

Yekabu Gedru, who is experiencing serious eye problems.

Erna Wolfrum, Anita McIntyre's mother, who is hospitalized and in improving condition.

Ken Reilly, who continues his battle with cancer.

Keep In Your Prayers

Rev. Richard Schuller, Marrissa Halsell, Ray Snow, Doug Hartman, Larry Ellgass, Josie Kong, Tony Kong, Annie Hyde, Sherry Parsons, Lorraine Jenson, Karen Harmon and Karen Johnson.

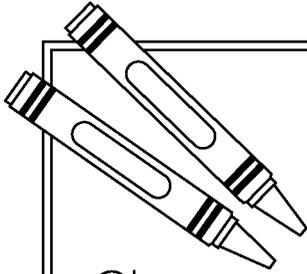
(NOTE: Those listed under "Keep in your prayers" are removed from the list after eight weeks. If there is someone you would like to keep on the list for another eight weeks, please contact the church office.)

Those Battling Cancer

Those battling cancer: Anne Harter (daughter of Dick & Susan Kesler), 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.



Just for **KIDS**

Search for Wisdom

It's the start of a new school year! You'll learn many things and read many books. There's an important book in the Bible called the book of Proverbs. It tells us to learn about God and to search for wisdom.

Read Proverbs 2:1-5 (NIV) below, and then → ← ↓ ↑ ↘ ↗ search the puzzle for the capital words.

“... if you **ACCEPT** my words and store up my **COMMANDS** within you, turning your **EAR** to **WISDOM** and applying your **HEART** to **UNDERSTANDING**, and if you call out for **INSIGHT** and cry aloud for understanding, and if you **LOOK** for it as for **SILVER** and **SEARCH** for it as for hidden **TREASURE**, then you will understand the fear of the **LORD** and find the **KNOWLEDGE** of **GOD**.”

U	F	R	P	Q	X	I	X	H	E	A	R	T
D	N	R	D	X	R	M	P	F	I	C	O	E
H	A	D	I	Z	O	I	P	J	E	B	G	X
E	G	G	E	D	C	R	N	R	J	D	P	H
S	Y	U	S	R	E	O	U	S	E	O	C	I
E	U	I	E	V	S	S	M	L	I	Y	K	B
A	W	K	L	D	A	T	W	M	H	G	Z	P
R	X	I	P	E	T	O	A	K	A	C	H	L
C	S	D	R	P	N	J	G	N	N	N	E	T
H	J	T	J	K	O	N	O	V	D	W	D	K
H	U	Y	N	L	O	R	D	O	S	I	O	S
Z	X	Z	A	G	X	C	Z	M	U	O	N	J
A	C	C	E	P	T	S	Y	D	L	E	D	G

SERVING US TODAY

PREACHER: Pastor David Brighton. **LITURGIST:** Vicar Tim Staffeld. **ELDERS:** Darron Counselman (8 am) and Bob Gerstenberger (10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Sway Cronin (8 am) and Zoe Bowden (10:45 am). **USHERS:** Early – Don Parrott, Ralph Wenrick, Dale Hawkins & Roger Foss. Late – Paul Ferguson, Sam Culpepper, Dale Channell, Champ Aldredge & Mark Burnette. **ALTAR GUILD:** Lois Harter, Melinda Hopf, Ruth Miller, Suzanne O'Daniel & Maureen Young. **LAY READERS:** Carol Yeager (8 am) and Carolyn Burnam (10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Christi Bacon. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Lyle Wurdeman (8 am) and Kyle Webb (10:45 am).

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: Rob Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Brian Harper (Sun 8 am) and Open (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Christopher Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Andrew LeBorious (8 am) and Maddy Hagemann (10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Cindy Branham, Anita McIntyre, Jo Ann Smith & Arlene Zeuner. **LAY READERS:** Bill Bohm (Sat 6 pm), Bob Yeager (8 am) and Pat Aldredge (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Debbie Strange (Sun 8 am) and Champ & Pat Aldredge (Sun 10:45 am).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Jeremiah 11:18-20 and James 3:13 – 4:10

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday – 50 Early – 75 Late – 148 Total – 273

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Sunday	12:00 pm	Ladies Tea
	12:00 pm	EE Kickoff Luncheon
Monday	6:30 pm	SLDT Meeting
	11:00 am	Daytime Callers
Tuesday	6:20 pm	Evangelism Callers (New Class)
	6:30 pm	Women's Small Group
	6:30 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
	6:30 pm	Elder Visits
Wednesday	7:15 pm	Bell Choir
	9:30 am	Craft & Chat
	5:30 pm	Dinner
	6:00 pm	Adult Bible Classes
Thursday	6:15 pm	Children/Youth Classes
	7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir
	9:30 am	Mom's Play Group
	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
Friday	11:00 am	Senior Fellowship
	6:00 pm	High School Fall Retreat (Thru Sat 8 pm)
Saturday	8:30 am	Men's Breakfast
	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
Next Sunday	12 – 3 pm	8 th Grade Confirmation Workshop
	12:30-3 pm	Parsonage Open House
	6:30 pm	TAG Night