

**As We Gather**

In our Epistle reading today, the Apostle Paul compares the church to a human body. A body has many different parts, but all of the parts work together for the good of the body. Just as God arranged our bodies in a way that they are (as the psalmist marveled) "fearfully and wonderfully made," so God wants His body, the church to work together in a way that others outside the faith would marvel at the wonderful way we carry on God's mission to love and care for others and share the Good News of salvation with them. So today, may this truth invigorate our worship: "We are the body of Christ and individually members of it!"

**PRELUDE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING**

**OPENING HYMN:**                    *"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"*                    **Hymn #398**

**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**

While assured of God's great mercy, let us confess together that we, by our heedless thoughts, careless words, and loveless deeds, have sinned against our gracious God and deserve His punishment now and eternally.

*(please kneel)*

Merciful God.

**We repent of our sins in thought, word, and deed. Be merciful to us, and for the sake of Jesus grant us Your forgiveness so that, as Your redeemed people, we may find rest in You and with refreshed hearts serve You in time and in eternity. 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:**                    *"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"*

**Holy God, we praise Thy Name;  
Lord of all, we bow before Thee.  
All on earth Thy scepter claim,  
All in heav'n above adore Thee.  
Infinite Thy vast domain,  
Everlasting is Thy reign.**

**Holy Father, Holy Son,  
Holy Spirit, Three we name Thee;  
Though in essence only one,  
Undivided God we claim Thee  
And, adoring, bend the knee  
While we own the mystery.**

**THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Almighty God, in Your Son, Jesus Christ, the hoped-for promise of salvation was fully realized. On this day, in this place, help us receive Your Word with open and believing hearts while the truth of Your redeeming Law and Gospel is proclaimed to us. Let the Spirit of the Lord be upon us so that the Scripture once again is fulfilled in our hearing. We ask this 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: Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10** *(Ezra reads the Law of God.)*

<sup>1</sup> And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel. <sup>2</sup> So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. <sup>3</sup> And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. <sup>5</sup> And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. <sup>6</sup> And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. <sup>8</sup> They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

<sup>9</sup> And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. <sup>10</sup> Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**THE EPISTLE READING: 1 Corinthians 12:12–31a** *(Each of us is a part of the Body of Christ.)*

<sup>12</sup> For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup> For the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup> If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup> And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? <sup>18</sup> But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup> If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup> As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

<sup>21</sup> The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." <sup>22</sup> On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup> and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, <sup>24</sup> which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, <sup>25</sup> that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup> If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

<sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup> And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup> Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup> Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31</sup> But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

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. Luke the fourth Chapter.

Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

**THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 4:16–30** (*Jesus preaches in His home town of Nazareth.*)

<sup>16</sup> And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. <sup>17</sup> And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

<sup>18</sup> "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, <sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

<sup>20</sup> And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup> And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." <sup>22</sup> And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" <sup>23</sup> And he said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Physician, heal yourself.' What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well." <sup>24</sup> And he said, "Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. <sup>25</sup> But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, <sup>26</sup> and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. <sup>27</sup> And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian." <sup>28</sup> When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. <sup>29</sup> And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. <sup>30</sup> But passing through their midst, he went away.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☪ Praise to You, O Christ.

**THE CHILDRENS MESSAGE**

Mt. Calvary Puppet Ministry

**HYMN OF THE DAY:**

***"O Christ Our True and Only Light"***

**Hymn #839**

**THE MESSAGE**

**"The Body of Christ"**

Pastor David Brighton

**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**

**++ The Stewardship Thought ++**

**The word "epiphany" means to "reveal or make known."**

"I will make You as a light for the nations, that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth."  
(Isaiah 49:6b)

**THE OFFERTORY:**                    ***"Praise and Thanksgiving"***

**Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer  
For all things living, created good:  
Harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,  
Hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.**

**Father, providing food for Your children,  
By Your wise guiding teach us to share  
One with another, so that, rejoicing  
With us, all others may know Your care.**

**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 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:**                    ***"O Savior, Precious Savior"***                    **Hymn #527**

## **A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER**

## **THE POSTLUDE**

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Our Altar Flowers were provided this week** by Bill & Arlene Zeuner, in honor of their 59<sup>th</sup> wedding Anniversary.

**Today is Sanctity of Life Sunday** and along with millions of other Christians around the country we want to promote a culture of LIFE in our communities. This month marks the 43<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision, legalizing abortion on demand in the United States. Since then, over 60 million little children never took their first breath or celebrated their first birthday. Our local pregnancy center, ***Caring Solutions***, gives free pregnancy tests and ultrasounds to expecting mothers, along with Christian counseling. The result of this caring ministry here in Warner Robins and in Macon is that 3,036 lives have been saved over the past five years – a remarkable number! Our congregation began this ministry here in Warner Robins ten years ago in 2006. Each year we participate in the "**Baby Bottle Campaign.**" We have baby bottles in a container in the Narthex and everyone is encouraged to take one home and fill it up with cash/coins/check (checks should be made out to: Caring Solutions) and bring it back by the end of February. The gifts we give will help to fund our ***Caring Solutions*** pregnancy center for another year!

**Voters Meeting Coming Up!** Next Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, the Voters Assembly will meet at 12:15 pm in the Michael Fellowship Hall. A light lunch will precede the meeting. Major topics include: Year-end reports from our boards, staff reports and Pastor Brighton's "State of the Church" report, election of new officers and board members, report from the Rebecca's Garden @ Mt. Calvary task force, and the 2016 budget. All members of Mt. Calvary who are 18 years of age or older are eligible to be voters.

**On Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, Council approved a recommendation to change our Bylaws** (Article IV.A.5) to increase the term of the Treasurer from 2 years to 3 years. This is a term of service similar to some other positions that are also sometimes difficult to fill. Please prayerfully consider coming forward to fill this important office. [Side Note: We are also in need of a Recorder (Council Secretary) for the next 2-year term.] This notification fulfills the requirement to notify the congregation about proposed changes to the Bylaws via the bulletin prior to the Voters Meeting on January 31. Thank you! - Dave Radcliff, Council President

**Sweethearts Dinner** - Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 6-8 pm in the Michael Fellowship Hall. We look forward to a delicious lasagna meal and the traditional chocolate dessert contest where you, the guests, provide your favorite chocolate indulgence. The Board of Fellowship asks folks to bring in a wedding photo to display during the event. Babysitting will be provided. If you have any questions, please see your BOF members, Keith Dierking, Deb Fingles, Michelle Crawford, and Doug Branham. Cost is \$5 a person and we will start selling tickets this weekend. What a deal!

**February Newsletter Deadline:** Please have all items in to the office by close-of-business Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>.

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

**Members of the Week: Darron & Valerie Counselman and Garrett.** Darron grew up in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. He lived in Georgia for several years but returned to the U.P. in 1996 after his Dad died. Valerie grew up in a suburb of Minneapolis. After her husband died in 1993 she completed her college education in MN. She moved to the U.P. in 1999 to take her first job in her new career as a Dietitian. Darron said he knew he was looking at his future wife the first time he saw Valerie! They were married a year later. Valerie inscribed Darron's wedding ring with "United by God" as it was certain that God was responsible for making their paths cross. They relocated to Brunswick in 2000 and to Savannah in 2004, where Darron completed his teaching degree. They moved to Warner Robins in 2006 to be close to Darron's stepmother, and joined Mt. Calvary in 2008. Darron is a 7<sup>th</sup> grade Science teacher at Thomson Middle School. Valerie is a Dietitian at Houston Medical Center. Their son Garret is 13 and plays the piano and trumpet. He also played an important part in the Children's Christmas musical. Allison is 25 and married with a stepson Carter, who is 7. Darron is an Elder and runs the cornhole tournaments. Valerie serves on the Altar Guild and is on the Outreach Board. The Counselman's are thankful for the love and support they have received from their Mt. Calvary family.

**TAG Breakfast Bible Study:** On Super Bowl Sunday the Youth Board will be cooking up breakfast for the Middle & High School youth in the Annex. Breakfast will be served with Bible Study that morning. The cost of breakfast is \$3/person which covers eggs, pancakes, bacon, sausage, biscuits, gravy, juice, & coffee.

**Student Leadership Development Team (SLDT):** Students interested in serving on the Winter/Spring 2016 Session of the SLDT need to fill out an application or reapplication by Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. We will be having our winter planning retreat on Saturday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. All High School youth who are actively attending Mount Calvary are eligible to serve on the SLDT.

**High School Super Bowl Party:** There will be an Outreach Super Bowl Party on Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, from 6-10 pm in the Annex for all High School Youth and their friends. The cost for the party is \$5/person to cover all the food you will be eating. There are "friend coupons" so your friends get in for free! There will also be gift card drawings for first time visitors and the youth who bring them. Plan on attending this evening of food, fun, and football!

**Telephone Prayer Chain:** For those of you who don't have a computer, or who don't care to use our online prayer chain, we are considering having a telephone prayer chain. If you would be interested in this, please call Barbara Mabee (922-2278).

**Wheelchairs & Walkers to loan:** Over the years, people have donated wheelchairs & walkers and even a shower bath stool to the church. If you need any of these for visiting relatives or post-surgery or whatever, they are available at no charge with no time limit. Just ask Jack or Pastor for their location.

**Don't forget "The Fish", our own Mount Calvary free classified ad page.** Check out the current issue on the bulletin boards and the table by the front doors to see what's for sale and what services our members can help you with. If you have items you'd like to sell or have publicized, contact Susan Wallace at 227-1915 or e-mail her at mixedsilles02@gmail.com.

### **PRAYER CONCERNS**

**Courage Trasmer**, daughter of Mark & Angleen (Hawkins) Trasmer, as she recovers from heart surgery.

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

**Margaret Frazier**, who is undergoing more chemotherapy in her ongoing battle with cancer.

**Chet Branscom**, who is home following surgery.

### **Keep In Your Prayers**

Dwight Miller, Marrison Halsell, Jeannie Hawkins, Gerald Eschke, Fred Crawford, Betsy Luppino, Josie Kong (Evy Keyes' mom), Sonya Popken, Karen Harmon, Regina Ragan, Jan Clark, Chet Branscom, Deloris Denzine 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), Mary Jahnke (Joe's sister), Barry Rice (Becky McVay's brother), Norma Young (Melinda Hopf's aunt), Paula Babcock, Kathy Grube, Mary Schwope (Michele Durbin's aunt), Jeannette Poniske (Fred Tamer's mom), Bruce Oswald (Krystal Ferguson's father), Gary Jennings (Margaret Jennings' son) and Elaine Mead (Jeannie Hawkins' aunt).

### **Those Serving our Country in Dangerous Areas**

Rodney Hood, Matthew Forehand, Jake Huffman, 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:** Pastor David Brighton. **ELDERS:** Darron Counselman (Sun 8 am) and D. J. Nelson (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Nathan LeBorious (8 am) and Tyler Longbine (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:** Marcia Brighton, Valerie Counselman, Denise Forehand & Nancy Hoar. **LAY READERS:** Linna Nielsen (8 am) and Pat Aldredge (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), Darron Counselman (Sun 8 am) and Bill Gragg (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Christopher Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Carolyn Harper (Sun 8 am) and Libby Parsons (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Marcia Brighton, Valerie Counselman, Denise Forehand & Nancy Hoar. **LAY READERS:** Bill Bohm (Sat 6 pm), Rich Losert (Sun 8 am) and Jim Morey (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Caroline Martin (Sun 8 am) and Paul & Dottie Brown (Sun 10:45 am).

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**

Jeremiah 1:4-19 and 1 Corinthians 12:31b – 13:13

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK**

**Saturday – 29 Early – 96 Late – 173 Total – 298**

**THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY**

<b>Today</b>	<b>5 – 7 pm</b>	<b>Lutheran Night</b>
Monday	6:20 pm	Evangelism Callers
	6:30 pm	Women's Small Group
Tuesday	6:30 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
Wednesday	5:30 pm	Dinner
	6:00 pm	Adult Bible Classes
	6:15 pm	Children/Youth Classes
	7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir
Thursday	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
	6:30 pm	RG@MC Task Force
Saturday	9 am – 4 pm	SLDT Retreat
	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
<b>Next Sunday</b>	<b>12:00 pm</b>	<b>Voters Meeting</b>
	6:30 pm	TAG Night