

As We Gather

Materialism is the tendency to assign more importance to material things than spiritual things. It's all about being attached to the things of this world so much that the more important things of our faith life get neglected. Materialism feeds into our "me, me, me" sinful nature. Abraham's nephew Lot struggled to keep his relationship with his God in its proper place – front and center in his life – and the resulting tragedy that led to his wife turning into a pillar of salt and his daughters having an incestuous relationship with him were a direct result of this sin. Today we'll discuss the pull of our sinful nature to grab on too tightly to the things of this world and God's grace which frees us to enjoy this life on earth while at the same time relishing the "things that are unseen" that are far superior for faith and eternity!

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:***"Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear"***Hymn #908****INVOCATION**

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

Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION:**"Return to the Lord, Your God"***(choir)*

**Return to the Lord, your God
Return to the Lord, your God,
For the day of the Lord is coming,
The day of the Lord is near.
Return, return,
Return to the Lord, your God
Return to the Lord, your God,**

THE CONFESSION OF SINS AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Let us make confession of our sins.

(please kneel)

O Lord Jesus Christ,

You who would gather us into Your arms as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, have mercy on us. For even as You reach out to us in love, we daily turn away from You, choosing instead to turn to sin. We have failed to love You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In spite of our sin, we act as though we deserve the many blessings You give us. What we justly deserve is Your present and eternal punishment. Have mercy on us, forgive us, and by the power of Your Holy Spirit, cleanse our hearts and minds that we might walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

(choir)

**"Yet even now," says the Lord,
"Return to me with all Your heart,
With fasting, with weeping, and with mourning,
And rend your hearts and not your garments."
Return, return,
Return to the Lord, your God
Return to the Lord, your God,**

Christ Jesus, true man and true God, was obedient to His Father in all things and in our place. By His death, He destroyed death, and by His rising to life again He opened eternal life to all who call on Him for forgiveness. 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. May God strengthen you in your Lenten journey toward the joy of Easter!

Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE:

"I Lay My Sins on Jesus"

**I lay my sins on Jesus,
The spotless Lamb of God;
He bears them all and frees us
From the accursed load.
I bring my guilt to Jesus
To wash my crimson stains
Clean in His blood most precious
Till not a spot remains.**

**I rest my soul on Jesus,
This weary soul of mine;
His right hand me embraces;
I on His breast recline.
I love the name of Jesus,
Immanuel, Christ, the Lord;
Like fragrance on the breezes
His name abroad is poured.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; 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: **Genesis 13:5-13, 19:15-17, 23-25** *(Lot chooses the better land for himself.)*

⁵ And Lot, who went with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents, ⁶ so that the land could not support both of them dwelling together; for their possessions were so great that they could not dwell together, ⁷ and there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. At that time the Canaanites and the Perizzites were dwelling in the land.

⁸ Then Abram said to Lot, "Let there be no strife between you and me, and between your herdsmen and my herdsmen, for we are kinsmen. ⁹ Is not the whole land before you? Separate yourself from me. If you take the left hand, then I will go to the right, or if you take the right hand, then I will go to the left." ¹⁰ And Lot lifted up his eyes and saw that the Jordan Valley was well watered everywhere like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, in the direction of Zoar. (This was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.) ¹¹ So Lot chose for himself all the Jordan Valley, and Lot journeyed east. Thus they separated from each other. ¹² Abram settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled among the cities of the valley and moved his tent as far as Sodom. ¹³ Now the men of Sodom were wicked, great sinners against the LORD.

¹⁵ As morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Up! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be swept away in the punishment of the city." ¹⁶ But he lingered. So the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city. ¹⁷ And as they brought them out, one said, "Escape for your life. Do not look back or stop anywhere in the valley. Escape to the hills, lest you be swept away."

²³ The sun had risen on the earth when Lot came to Zoar. ²⁴ Then the LORD rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire from the LORD out of heaven. ²⁵ And he overthrew those cities, and all the valley, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground. ²⁶ But Lot's wife, behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM: 8:00 Laudumus Seminary Choir

10:45 Sanctuary Choir

THE EPISTLE READING: Philippians 3:17–4:1 (*Stand firm in the Lord.*)

¹⁷ Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸ For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹ Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself. ¹ Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE VERSE FOR LENT: "Return to the Lord"

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

THE HOLY GOSPEL IS ANNOUNCED:

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the thirteenth chapter.

Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 13:31–35 (*Jesus wanted to gather His brood, but they would not.*)

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." ³² And he said to them, "Go and tell that fox, 'Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I finish my course.' ³³ Nevertheless, I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the day following, for it cannot be that a prophet should perish away from Jerusalem.' ³⁴ O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!'"

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise to You, O Christ.

THE CHILDRENS MESSAGE

Pastor Brighton

HYMN OF THE DAY:

"What Is the World to Me"

Hymn #730

THE MESSAGE

"Lot: Spoiled – Who Me?"

Pastor 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 ++

Lent is from an old Anglo-Saxon word that means "springtime." The 40 days of Lent are a time of penitence, a time to conduct a spiritual "house cleaning," and give up our self-serving ways as we seek to live our lives worthy of our calling as God's baptized people.

VOLUNTARY

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 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 overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. 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

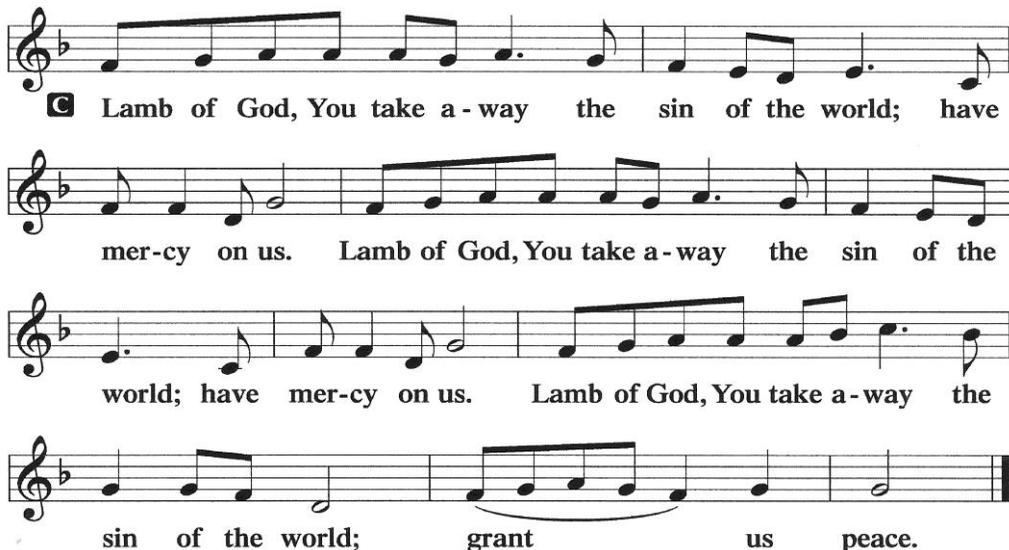
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the 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:

Anthem (8:00)

Laudamus Choir

"Jesus Comes Today With Healing"

Hymn #620

"I Am Trusting The, Lord Jesus"

Hymn #729

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

Hymn #621

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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:

"When I Behold Jesus Christ"

Hymn #542

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted with permission.
Divine Service Two, First Setting from Lutheran Worship © 1982 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted with permission.
All scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version, copyright © 1984 by International Bible Society.
Used by permission. All rights reserved.
Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Altar Flowers were provided this week by Carl & Barb Mabee, in honor of their wedding anniversary, and by Jean Dimeler, in loving memory of Wayne.

Members of the Week: Bob & Carol Yeager grew up in Northumberland, PA and were High School sweethearts. They were engaged the summer before Carol's Senior year, prior to Bob entering the Air Force. They were married the following August. (1965) Bob served in the Air Force for more than 22 years. After that he worked for 23 years for a government contractor. Carol was a supportive spouse, following him to Germany (2 tours), Spain and also Texas, Oklahoma, and Ohio. Carol worked for the logistics program while in Germany, Ohio and at Robins AFB. She retired from civil service after 28 years. They have 2 wonderful children and 6 grandchildren, (1 of which is in heaven). Their daughter is married to a career Army officer who is currently assigned to the Army War College in PA. Their son lives in Ball Ground, GA and is plant engineer for an Austrian-owned aluminum extrusion company. Bob and Carol moved to Warner Robins in 1984 with the AF and liked it so much they decided to retire here. Carol joined Mt Calvary in 1986 and Bob in 1995. Carol enjoys Bible studies, sewing, knitting and crocheting. Bob does some amazing wood working projects!! He donates bowls, vases etc. to the church Bazaar and to the Youth fundraisers. They both enjoy working out at the gym. Also, they have served faithfully as Bible study leaders, Evangelism callers, etc. They treasure their church family.

Newsletter Deadline: Please have all items for the March Newsletter in to the office no later than Monday, February 22nd.

Our Spring 2016 Evangelism Explosion (EE) Training Session will begin on Monday, February 29th. This thirteen-week EE training session is a combination of classroom and on-the-job training held at Mount Calvary on Monday evenings. Our EE kickoff luncheon is on Sunday, February 28th after the late service, in the Michael Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend the free luncheon to find out more about our EE training.

The Social Ministry Board provides meals and rides for members of Mount Calvary who are in need. Meals are provided for members who have recently been ill or released from the hospital. Rides are given to local doctor appointments, church activities or dire necessities. If these services are needed or you know someone who would benefit, please contact Jan Clark at 478-987-6555.

The Ladies Guild will be collecting packages of children's new socks or new underwear during Lent. They will be given to Faith Lutheran Clothes. A collection box will be in the Narthex. Contact Nancy Branscom or Vivian Stilley with questions.

Walk with Jesus- Mark your calendar today for this year's Walk with Jesus. Join us on March 26, 2016, from 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. as we follow Jesus on a step-by-step journey to the cross and then see the empty tomb on Easter morning! We will also have an Easter Egg Hunt. Sign-up sheets will be available soon! Don't miss out on this opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with family and friends at Mount Calvary!! Any questions, please ask Cynthia at mt-cal-dcm@att.net.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Sallie Brinkley, who fell and injured her back.

The family of Greg Opolka, who died February 12th.

Ken Reilly, who is at home and under hospice care.

Belle Wright, who is hospitalized.

Jeanene Crawford, who is hospitalized.

Sandi Jacobsmeyer, who is in rehab following back surgery on February 1st.

Tim Yarbrough, who had is recovering from back surgery.

Robert and Lauren Mitchell, Quentin Harris' brother and sister-in-law, who lost their baby just 4 weeks from the delivery date.

Keep In Your Prayers

Norman Thompson, Mary Hursey (Fred's mother), Louise May (Jimmy Martin's mother), Courage Trasmer, Joyce Boone, Chet Branscom, Dwight Miller, Marrison Halsell, Jeannie Hawkins, Gerald Eschke, Betsy Luppino, Josie Kong (Evy Keyes' mom), Sonya Popken, Karen Harmon, Regina Ragan, 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: Margaret Frazier, 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 Schwoppe (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

Emily Whaley, 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/Vicar Tim Staffeld. **ELDERS:** Darron Counselman (Sun 8 am) and Bob Gerstenberger (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Sway Cronin (8 am) and Tyler Longbine (10:45 am). **USHERS:** Early – Erv Robinson, Paul Keister, Fred Hursey, Steve Kirchoff & Eric Gossman. Late – Dwight Miller, Roger Moeller, John Hunter, Jim Morey & Cameron Mastenbrook. **ALTAR GUILD:** Sue Glaser, Barb Mabee, Ginger Martin, Kathy Robinson & Sharon Suckow. **LAY READERS:** Lexie Hadley (8 am) and D. J. Nelson (10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Debi Cole. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Tanner Gossman (8 am) and Trevor Hudlin (10:45 am).

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: Rob Crawford (Wed 7 pm), Rob Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Eric Jenkins (Sun 8 am) and D. J. Nelson 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Garrett Counselman (Wed 7 pm), Christopher Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Taitum Gossman (Sun 8 am) and Maddy Hagemann (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Sue Glaser, Barb Mabee, Ginger Martin, Kathy Robinson & Sharon Suckow. **LAY READERS:** Debi Cole (Sat 6 pm), Darron Counselman (Sun 8 am) and Bruce Bauman (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Debbie Strange (Sun 8 am) and Betty Cummings & Nancy Hoar (Sun 10:45 am).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Judges 16:4-22 and 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday – 63 Early – 108 Late – 140 Total – 311

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Today	12 – 3 pm	8 th Grade Confirmation Workshop
	6:30 pm	TAG Night
Monday	6:20 pm	Evangelism Callers
	6:30 pm	Women's Small Group
Tuesday	4 – 7 pm	RG@MC
	6:30 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
Wednesday	6:00 pm	Meal
	7:00 pm	Worship
	7:45 pm	Sanctuary Choir (after Worship)
Thursday	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
	6 – 9 pm	RG@MC
Friday	Stewardship Summit @ Marietta, GA (thru Saturday)	
Saturday	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
Next Sunday	6:30 pm	SLDT Meeting