

As We Gather

The story of Peter is interesting. It was Peter who first confessed Jesus as Lord—and Peter to whom Jesus said, “Get behind Me, Satan.” It was Peter who insisted he was not like the others and would never abandon Jesus—and Peter who denied the Lord three times. But Peter’s story is also the story of the mercy of God to forgive Peter, to restore him from his falls, and to set him apart for service. Every Christian is like Peter—an enemy of God through sin to whom the Lord has shown His friendship in the Gospel and transformed into His friend!

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

OPENING HYMN: *“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing”* **Hymn #475**

THE INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

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

Amen.

We worship a risen and reigning Lord!

The King of kings and Lord of lords!

Jesus Christ conquered death for us on the cross at Calvary and He now lives forever as the firstborn of the dead and the guarantee of our resurrection.

He is not dead, but living!

He is risen!

He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

THE CONFESSION OF SINS AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The only thing that can blunt our continuing Easter celebration is our own sinfulness. Let us now confess our sins before God that we might receive the assurance of His forgiveness.

(please kneel)

Merciful Father,

We confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We are dead in sin by our very nature. We have failed to do the good You have called us to do, and we have done the evil You forbid. We pray for pardon, peace, and forgiveness for our sin, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Release us from sin’s burden and guilt that we may know the peace of forgiveness and serve You with our whole heart, mind, and strength.

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: "Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven"

**Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heav'n and voices raise:
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise;
He who on the cross a victim, for the world's salvation bled
Jesus Christ the king of Glory, now is risen from the dead.**

**Alleluia, Christ is risen! Death at last has met defeat:
See the ancient pow'rs of evil in confusion and retreat;
Once He died, and once was buried: Now He lives forevermore,
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer. Whom we worship and adore.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high:
Alleluia to the Savior who has gained the victory;
Alleluia, to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity!
Alleluia, alleluia to the triune Majesty!**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; 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 FIRST READING: Acts 9:1–22 *(Saul's conversion on the road to Damascus.)*

¹ But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. ⁴ And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" ⁵ And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. ⁸ Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem.

¹⁴ And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name.” ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. ¹⁶ For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” ¹⁷ So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; ¹⁹ and taking food, he was strengthened.

For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. ²⁰ And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.” ²¹ And all who heard him were amazed and said, “Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?” ²² But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING: Revelation 5:8–14 (*The elders and angels sing a new song before the Lamb as He sits on His heavenly throne!*)

⁸ And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹ And they sang a new song, saying,

“Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, ¹⁰ and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.”

¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹² saying with a loud voice,

“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”

¹³ And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying,

“To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!”

¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

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. John the twenty-first chapter.



Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 21:1–19 *(After directing the disciples to a great catch of fish, Jesus asks Peter if he loves Him.)*

¹ After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. ² Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. ³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

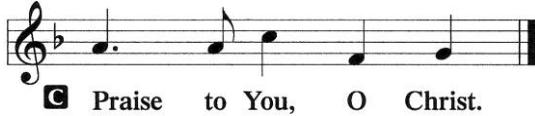
⁴ Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." ⁶ He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. ⁸ The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off.

⁹ When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶ He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep."

¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep." ¹⁸ Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go." ¹⁹ (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "Follow me."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



THE CHILDRENS MESSAGE

Pastor Brighton

HYMN OF THE DAY:

"The Day of Resurrection"

Hymn #478

THE MESSAGE

"In Need of a Fresh Start"

Pastor Brighton

THE THIRD ARTICLE OF THE APOSTLES' CREED AND LUTHER'S EXPLANATION:

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.

What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

THE GATHERING OF THE TITHES AND OFFERINGS

++ The Stewardship Thought ++

"Death has been swallowed up in victory! Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death is your sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Corinthians 15:54-57)

What do these words of the Apostle Paul mean to you personally?

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 silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use
Every power as Thou shall chose.**

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:

"He's Risen, He's Risen"

Hymn #480

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Altar Flowers were provided this week by Jackie & Steve Kaestner in honor of the birthday of their grandson, Jace, and by Alyce Quillin in loving memory of her husband Hank.

Rebuilding Together Workday – As we have for many years, Mt Calvary will again be helping *Rebuilding Together Warner Robins* by working on improving two local homes. The National Workday is scheduled for **Saturday, April 23, 2016** (weather permitting) beginning **@ 7AM @ the Warner Robins Rec Center**. We will be starting on one of the projects before the workday but do not expect to finish the total job. On the workday, we will need help with landscaping, and general clean-up and possibly some painting. If interested, please sign the list on the information table. Call Roger Moeller, House Captain (478)320-2696, if you have any questions.

Mount Calvary has received a gift in memory of Ken Reilly from John & Liz Hunter.

Members of the week John & Cynthia Trichinotis were married January 29, 2000 at Mount Calvary the day after an ice storm. John was born and raised in Chicago, IL. He graduated from Kennedy High School and entered the Air Force. His two tours in Vietnam led to a 38 year career beginning with active duty and then serving in the reserves and civil service as an Air Reserves Technician. During his years in the service he earned his BA from Southern Illinois University. John is an avid bowler and has shot several 300 games. Cynthia was born and raised in Stamford, CT. She graduated high school from Sacred Heart Academy and holds a BS in Science & Chemistry. John moved to Warner Robins in 1989 and Cynthia in 2000 after leaving her job after 15 years at UPS to marry John. John has 2 sons and Cynthia has 3 sons and 1 daughter. They have 3 grandsons. They run a successful jewelry business which they hope to make full time after Cynthia retires from Ricoh USA. Mt Calvary has been a big influence in their spiritual growth and they are very involved in EE, various Bible studies and community activities. John sings in the praise band and Cynthia handles the PowerPoint/Audio Visual slides and equipment for the Praise & Worship Service and announcements.

Mount Calvary has received a gift in memory of Belle Wright from Flora Rider.

I'd like to thank my Mt. Calvary family for the many get well cards and birthday wishes. My knee surgery is behind me and I am looking forward to a complete recovery. Your thoughtfulness during this ordeal has been such a blessing to me. – Pat Aldredge.

The Ladies Guild is again collecting empty inkjet printer cartridges and toner cartridges, used cell phones, laptops (include power cords), digital cameras, e-readers, tablets, GPS systems and scientific calculators. Money from this recycling will be used for the 2019 LWML convention in Birmingham. Drop-off box is in the hall in front of the church office. *These items are needed by April 22nd to take to the LWML Zone Rally.*

Lutheran Witness subscriptions are available free of charge to the individual. The church pays for them. If you are not already receiving this magazine in the mail, but would like to, please write "Lutheran Witness" in the "Comments for the Pastor" section on your attendance card or let Jack know. This information is needed by the 17th of April.

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, April 11th, in the church conference room at 11:00 am.**

Come out and support the church softball team! This week's games: 1) J-Boys - 6:30 on Tuesday at Peavy 2; and 2) Second Baptist – 8:30 on Friday at Peavy 2.

The Lutheran Village Board needs your opinion to continue with plans for the Senior Retirement Living Community. Please complete the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FS3LTZB> or pick up a copy at the Information Desk in the Narthex. The online form is to be printed. It is complete after your entries are calculated. We need this done by April 19th and you can leave the survey in the "Van Gorder" mailbox in the entryway.

You won't have to go south of the border for this fiesta! Join us for an afternoon of fellowship and fun on the lawn between the church and the Annex on Saturday, April 30th. This Mexican-themed event will provide fun and games for the whole family including an egg toss, tug-o-war, horseshoes, water balloon toss, cornhole tournament, water games, and more! Come to watch, play, fellowship, and enjoy good food. Bring a Mexican (or any) side dish to share! Hope to see you there!

Cornhole begins at 10:00 am - Games begin at 11:00 am - Eating to begin at 12:00 pm

Men's Breakfast – Guys, join us on Saturday morning, April 16th at 8am in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast, fellowship and a devotion by Pastor to get your day started. It's a guy thing!

Caring Solutions Fundraising Benefit Dinner at the Macon Auditorium on Thursday, April 14th, 7 pm (doors open at 6:30pm). Seated dinner tickets are \$30 each and balcony seats at \$10 each. The featured speaker is Christian actor Kirk Cameron. You won't want to miss this opportunity to hear Kirk Cameron and to support Caring Solutions, the pregnancy center started by Mt. Calvary 10 years ago. Sign up at the information desk for tickets and make checks out to Caring Solutions.

TAG Trip To Stone Mountain: Both the Middle & High School groups will be going to Stone Mountain next Saturday, April 16th, from 2 pm – Midnight. We will be hiking up the mountain, having a picnic dinner, and watching the laser light show. The cost for the event is \$10/person. Youth need to either sign up in the Annex or text Pete that they are coming so he can make sure we have enough drivers and food.

Elementary Trip To Monkey Joes: Children in Kindergarten – 5th grade are invited to join us next Sunday, April 10th, from Noon – 3pm for a trip to Monkey Joes. The cost for this afternoon is \$12/person which will cover lunch and admission into Monkey Joes for an afternoon of bouncing & climbing fun. If you can help with driving, please let Pete or Mrs. Cynthia know. We will start at the annex at noon with lunch. Children can either be picked up at Monkey Joes by 2:45 or at the Annex at 3:00.

SLDT Meeting: The Student Leadership Development Team will meet this Sunday, April 10th, from 6:30-8 pm in the Annex. We will be doing a lot of planning for the National Youth Gathering, so come ready to work!

Annual Golf-Tournament Fund-Raiser: Our annual Youth Ministry Golf Tournament fund-raiser will be on Sunday, April 24th, at The Waterford Country Club. The cost is \$45/golfer for an 18 hole scramble tournament, cart, & lunch. Golfers can buy additional "scoring aids" at the tournament: Mulligans (3/\$5), Red Bomb (\$5), & Free Throw (\$10). All proceeds to help support the Youth Ministry at Mount Calvary. You can sign up your team or as individuals at the information desk.

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.

Church Directory in PDF Format – If you want a current to-the-minute church directory, just call or e-mail the church office. Our secretary can take 1 minute to create a PDF that's easy to use and up-to-date, then e-mail it to you.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Monika Reynolds, who is hospitalized.

Michael Longbine, who is recovering from surgery for a detached retina.

Hazel Stockelman, Nancy Branscom's sister, who is in rehab for heart problems.

Dwight Miller, who is home, but still very weak.

Keep In Your Prayers

Charleen Beahm, John Harmon, Hiltraud Culpepper, Pat Aldredge, Peggy Rodriguez, Carol LeBorious (Pete's mother), Mike Finnegan (Barbara Jernigan's brother), Kurt Rover, Sallie Brinkley, Sandi Jacobsmeyer, Jeanene Crawford, Tim Yarbrough, Norman Thompson, Louise May (Jimmy Martin's mother), Courage Trasmer, Joyce Boone, Chet Branscom, Gerald Eschke, Betsy Luppino, Josie Kong (Evy Keyes' mom), 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, 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 Oswalt (Krystal Ferguson's father), Gary Jennings (Margaret Jennings' son) and Elaine Mead (Jeannie Hawkins' aunt).

Those Serving our Country in Dangerous Areas

Benjamin Brighton, Emily Whaley, Rodney Hood, Matthew Forehand, 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 Mark Burnette (10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Abigail Halsell (8 am) and Zoe Bowden (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:** Jan Clark, Marcia Brighton, Denise Forehand, Nancy Hoar & Valerie Counselman. **LAY READERS:** Kathy Robinson (8 am) and John Hunter (10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Gary Webb. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Early – Nick Jenkins. Late – Caleb & D J Nelson.

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: Rob Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Bob Yeager (Sun 8 am) and Bob Gerstenberger (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Christopher Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Garrett Counselman (Sun 8 am) and Carlee Toler (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Lois Harter, Melinda Hopf, Ruth Miller, Suzanne O'Daniel & Maureen Young. **LAY READERS:** John Harmon (Sat 6 pm), Judy Van Gorder (Sun 8 am) and Julie Dimes (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Barbara Locke (Sun 8 am) and Jan Clark (Sun 10:45 am).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Acts 20:17-35 and Revelation 7:9-17

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday – 44 Early – 86 Late – 142 Total - 272

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Today	12 – 3 pm	Elementary Trip to Monkey Joes
	6:30 pm	SLDT Meeting
Monday	11:00 am	Daytime Callers
	6:20 pm	Evangelism Callers
	6:30 pm	Women's Small Group
Tuesday	4 – 7 pm	RG@MC
	6:30 pm	Softball
	7:00 pm	Council
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
Friday	7:30 pm	Softball
Saturday	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast
	2 pm – Midnite	TAG to Stone Mountain
	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
	5:00 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
Next Sunday	6:30 pm	National Youth Gathering Meeting