

As We Gather

"What's the point?" we ask. Whether at the beginning or at the end of a busy day, a gut-wrenching week, or a difficult season in life, it's easy to question the purpose of it all. Today's worship is geared toward those who ask the question "What's the point?" God's Word shows us the point and the purpose of our life in Christ, filling us with wisdom from above. The wise person learns this truth: God is working! God is working even as we rest in His presence. Right here, right now, in this service set before you, Jesus is laboring for our benefit and blessing! Working through Word and Sacrament, Jesus is here to forgive your sins, to refresh your soul, and to fill you with joy in His presence!

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

OPENING HYMN:

"God Himself Is Present"

Hymn #907

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:

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:



We wor-ship You. we give You thanks. we praise You for Your glo-ry.



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. O God, by Your almighty Word You set in order all things in heaven and on earth. Put away from us all things hurtful, and give us those things that are beneficial for us; 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: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12–14; 2:18–26 (*Those who are wise find God-given joy in their labor.*)

² Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹² I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³ And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven. It is an unhappy business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. ¹⁴ I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind.

¹⁸ I hated all my toil in which I toil under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to the man who will come after me, ¹⁹ and who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰ So I turned about and gave my heart up to despair over all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹ because sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²² What has a man from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun? ²³ For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity. ²⁴ There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, ²⁵ for apart from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment? ²⁶ For to the one who pleases him God has given wisdom and knowledge and joy, but to the sinner he has given the business of gathering and collecting, only to give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a striving after wind.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING: Colossians 3:1–11 (*Life in Christ changes our priorities.*)

¹ If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵ Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸ But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. ¹¹ Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

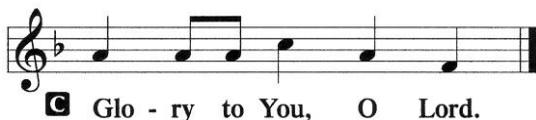
THE ALLELUIA VERSE:



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 twelfth chapter.

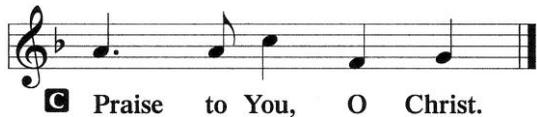


Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL: Luke 12:13–21 (*Jesus warns us of the devastating power of greed.*)

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." ¹⁴ But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵ And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." ¹⁶ And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully, ¹⁷ and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' ¹⁸ And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.' ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'" ²⁰ But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹ So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to You, O Christ.

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pete LeBorious, Director of Christian Education

THE HYMN OF THE DAY: **"Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings"** Hymn #782
(Hymn Tune: "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee")

THE MESSAGE

"Fool!"

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

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!)

++ Stewardship Thought ++

The Pentecost Season is the non-festival half of the Church Year-also know as the Season of the Church, with emphasis on the Church's role in making disciples of all nations.

Think about how you are using the talents God has given you to extend His kingdom.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name Of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:19)

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 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 Raise"* **Hymn #917**

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ice Cream Social! Be sure to stop in the Narthex after worship today and enjoy some ice cream with toppings, provided by our Puerto Rico Mission Team. A free will offering will be collected to help support our team as they prepare to go to Ponce, Puerto Rico in October and support our Synod's mission work there.

Our Altar Flowers were provided this week by Laird & Judy Van Gorder, in honor of their wedding anniversary.

Golf Tournament! The other major fundraiser for the Puerto Rico mission team will be a golf tournament at the Waterford South Golf Club on Sunday, September 11th. Cost is \$45 per person which includes: Lunch, tees and sleeve of golf balls, free water and coke during the tournament and the 18-hole tournament. The lunch will be served at 1pm and the shot-gun start will be at 2pm. Get your teams together now or you sign up as an individual and you will be put on a team. The sign-up board will be at the Information Desk soon!

Volleyball Anyone? It's time again to get ready for the Fall Volleyball Season. If you are interested, you can talk to Eric Gossman, D. J. Nelson or Tian Foss. The sign-up sheet is on the Information Desk.

I would like to thank the entire congregation for welcoming me over these past few weeks. I would especially like to thank you all for the gifts to help me get settled in. The kindness you have shown has been incredibly helpful during this transition. This congregation truly is has been a blessing to me, and I look forward to serving here over the next year as I continue to get to know all of the wonderful people here at Mt. Calvary. Thank you again. In Christ, Vicar Aaron

Hear ye, Hear ye!! We need additional puppeteers! If you can talk (check) and read (check) you are 100% qualified to be a puppeteer. The Mt. Calvary puppet ministry serves once per month at the Sunday services. For more information or to volunteer, Please contact Tian Foss 478-953-1178 or email fosst@csp.edu.

New Sunday Adult Bible Studies! On Rally Day, August 7th, we'll be starting some new adult Bible studies during the Sunday School hour – 9:30-10:30 am (5 – 6 pm Saturday). Studying God's Word together is one of the great JOYS we have as a Christian family, so let us make this a priority along with our worship life here at Mt. Calvary! See the class descriptions on the bottom of page 9.

Mount Calvary has received a gift in memory of Paul Hoar, Nancy's brother-in-law, from Riley Hood.

Pastor's Class – Pastor Brighton will lead "Fellowship 101," which looks at the basics of our Lutheran/Christian faith. This class will run for 8 weeks (August 7 – September 25th). It's a great review class for our members and it's especially for non-members who would like to know more about Mt. Calvary, Lutherans and our Christian faith. If you have an unchurched friend or family member who would benefit, be sure to invite them!

Thank you so much to everyone who contributed to our VBS Mission Project: Heifer International. We collected \$520.00 and were able to purchase 1 goat, 1 sheep, 1 pig, a share of a llama, trio of rabbits, honeybees, flock of chicks, ducks/geese, and a share of tree seedlings. These items will help families in Africa get out of poverty and provide income for their families. Thank you again for supporting our VBS Mission Project! God's blessings to you!

Thank you so much to our nursery volunteers: Liz Hunter, Stella Nuckels, Adrianna Koerber, Andrea Smith, Molly Townsend, Rhoda Reilly, Laura & Libby Parsons, Tian Foss, Hayley Webb, Quentin & Becky Harris, Tyson & Sara Van Lannen, Megan Shores, Ruthie Radcliff, Holly Hartley, and Breanna, Koda, and Lynn Cook. Thank you for giving your time and talents to our smallest Mount Calvary members!!

Our Ushers for August: Early – Brian Harper, David Rossman, Bob Yeager & Richard Uitto. Late – Mike Hopf, Bruce Bauman, Dave Harter, Ed Bodony & Earl Bogardus.

Van Drivers Needed! On August 16th, Rebecca's Garden of Hope, our tutoring/mentoring program will begin. We have received permission for our church van to be in the bus line at three area elementary schools so that we can transport children to church for the tutoring sessions. We need several drivers and "ride along" folks to keep them company. The time commitment is every Tuesday from about 3:00 pm till 4:30 pm. We hope to have multiple drivers and "ride along" folks. Please talk to DCE Pete LeBorious or Pastor Brighton if you are interested, or to get more information to help you make a decision.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Monelle Netzinger, who is scheduled to have back surgery at the Mayo Clinic on August 5th.
Marrissa Halsell, who has been hospitalized this past week.
Josh Johnson, who continues to have issues with his heart.
Carol Quednow, who is undergoing rehab at Summerhill in Perry.
Sandi Jacobsmeyer, who continues to battle neck and back pain.
Bobby & Pat Wolfe, who are battling physical ailments.

Keep In Your Prayers

Bill Gragg, Mary Ellen Gragg, Jake Huffman, Delores Lewis, Jerry Bisping, Rachel Harmon (granddaughter of John & Karen Harmon), Jerry Eschke (Margaret McLaughlin's son), Betsy Luppino, Carol LeBorious (Pete's mother), Sherry Parsons, Mason Snow (grandson of Ray & Doris Snow), 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: Anne Kesler-Harter (Daughter of Dick & Susan Kesler), 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) and Gary Jennings (Margaret Jennings' son).

Those Serving our Country in Dangerous Areas

Aaron Gittner, Benjamin Brighton, Emily Whaley, Rodney Hood, Darrin Landis, Denver Yarbrough, Michael Welch, Jonathan Fetchik and Christian Corbitt, for safety and good health as they serve our country in dangerous areas.

Topic: Fellowship Basics

Location: Classroom #1

This class will focus on the basics of our faith and fellowship. People who are considering joining Mt. Calvary should take this course to get a good summary of our Lutheran/Christian beliefs. Members are also urged to take it for a great review of our faith! Come and bring a friend!

Leader: Pastor Brighton

Target Audience: ALL ADULTS

Topic: 1st and 2nd Timothy

Location: Fellowship Hall

In this class we will take a deeper look at Paul's letters to Timothy. These letters are an excellent source of wisdom for us as the people tasked with faithfully protecting Christ's Church today. Through these letters we will have a chance to take a look at many important topics regarding the structure of God's Church, including the different ways which we all have been called to serve in the Church.

Leader: Vicar Aaron Sterling

Target Audience: ALL ADULTS

Topic: Issues of Interest to Men

Location: Cry Room

This class looks at various topics that impact the lives of men, using Bible studies put out by Lutheran Hours Ministries – the Men's Network.

Leader: Don Netzinger

Target Audience: Men Only

Topic: Issues of Interest to Women

Location: Fellowship Hall, Classroom #2

This class covers various topics that relate to women, using various Bible studies to guide the discussion as women support women in their faith walk.

Leader: Liz Hunter

Target Audience: Women Only

SERVING US TODAY

PREACHER: Pastor David Brighton. **LITURGISTS:** Vicar Aaron Sterling & Pastor Brighton.
ELDERS: Brian Harper (8 am) and Bob Gerstenberger (10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Sara Van Lannen (8 am) and Carlee Toler (10:45 am). **USHERS:** Early – Laird Van Gorder, Brent Durbin, Dick Kesler & Kent Hansen. Late – D. J. Nelson, Don Netzinger, Adam Beecher, Dave Miller, Bob Day & Larry Ellgass. **ALTAR GUILD:** Cindy Branham, Anita McIntyre, JoAnn Smith and Arlene Zeuner. **LAY READERS:** Judy Van Gorder (8 am) and Dave Harter (10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Debi Cole. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Early – Louis Foss. Late – Josh Johnson.

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: Rob Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Eric Gossman (Sun 8 am) and Mark Burnette (Sun 10:45 am).
ACOLYTES: Zoe Bowden (Sat 6 pm), Andrew LeBorious (Sun 8 am) and Colton Wurdeman (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Sue Glaser, Barb Mabee, Ginger Martin, Kathy Robinson & Sharon Suckow. **LAY READERS:** Pruett Burge (Sat 6 pm), Linna Nielsen 8 am) and Julie Dimes (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Paul & Mollie Keister (Sun 8 am) and Dwight & Marlene Miller (Sun 10:45 am).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Genesis 15:1-6 and Hebrews 11:1-16

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday – 36 Early – 88 Late – 148 Total – 272

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Today	12:00 pm	Youth Board
Monday	10:00 am	Ladies Guild
	6:20 pm	Evangelism Callers
	6:30 pm	Women's Small Group
Tuesday	6:30 pm	Boards
	7:30 pm	Elders
Wednesday	9:30 am	Morning Glories
	5:30 – 8 pm	TAG Fall Kick-Off
Thursday	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
Friday	6 – 9 pm	Middle School Party
Saturday	Youth Ministry Weekend	
	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
	5:00 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
Next Sunday	RALLY DAY	
	Youth Ministry Weekend	
	12 – 1:30 pm	NYG Thank-You Lunch
	6:30 pm	TAG Night