

As We Gather

Not everyone who claims to speak on behalf of God Almighty actually does so. There have been many false prophets over the centuries, and there are many still today who would fill people with "vain hopes" speaking "visions of their own mind" (Jeremiah 23:16). In contrast, God invites His people to trust what He says is His Holy Word. This is the faith exemplified in the lives of the saints who have trusted in what God says more than in what their eyes could see. This simple trust is especially important for us who follow Jesus; after all, sometimes His works mystify: a sword that brings peace; His Word that kills and makes alive; and division that results in union (Luke 12:51).

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.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sins before God and on another.

(please kneel)

Almighty God, merciful Father,

We confess to You and before one another that we are sinful by nature and have turned away from You in our thinking, our speaking, and our doing, as well as in our failure to think, speak, and act when needed. To counter the destruction we have worked in our own lives and in the lives of the people around us, we have turned our itching ears to the voices of false prophets who offer only cold comfort. Now admitting the futility of all other helps, we cry to You for real mercy, asking that Your forgiveness for Jesus' sake be spoken over us. 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. Merciful Lord, cleanse and defend Your Church by the sacrifice of Christ. United with Him in Holy Baptism, give us grace to receive with thanksgiving the fruits of His redeeming work and daily follow in His way; through the same 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: Jeremiah 23:16–29 *(Beware of untrustworthy prophets!
Instead, pay attention to God's own Word.)*

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the LORD.

¹⁷ They say continually to those who despise the word of the LORD, 'It shall be well with you'; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, 'No disaster shall come upon you.'"

¹⁸ For who among them has stood in the council of the LORD to see and to hear his word, or who has paid attention to his word and listened? ¹⁹ Behold, the storm of the LORD! Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tempest; it will burst upon the head of the wicked. ²⁰ The anger of the LORD will not turn back until he has executed and accomplished the intents of his heart. In the latter days you will understand it clearly.

²¹ "I did not send the prophets, yet they ran; I did not speak to them, yet they prophesied.

²² But if they had stood in my council, then they would have proclaimed my words to my people, and they would have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their deeds.

²³ "Am I a God at hand, declares the LORD, and not a God far away? ²⁴ Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD.

²⁵ I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, 'I have dreamed, I have dreamed!' ²⁶ How long shall there be lies in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart, ²⁷ who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, even as their fathers forgot my name for Baal? ²⁸ Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? declares the LORD. ²⁹ Is not my word like fire, declares the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING: Hebrews 11:17–40; 12:1–3 (*The great cloud of witnesses—saints who lived by faith in Jesus.*)

¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, ¹⁸ of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." ¹⁹ He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. ²⁰ By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. ²¹ By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. ²² By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

²³ By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict. ²⁴ By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, ²⁵ choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶ He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. ²⁷ By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible. ²⁸ By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.

²⁹ By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

³² And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵ Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. ³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated— ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy—wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

³⁹ And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

¹ Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

³ Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

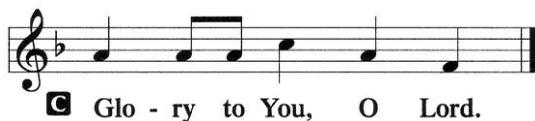
THE ALLELUIA VERSE:



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 HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 12:49–56 (*Jesus disrupts our status quo by dividing so that He can unite and lead us in understanding signs of the times.*)

⁴⁹ "I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. ⁵² For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. ⁵³ They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

⁵⁴ He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, 'A shower is coming.' And so it happens. ⁵⁵ And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. ⁵⁶ You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

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:

"On What Has Now Been Sown"

Hymn #921

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Altar Flowers were provided this week by Erv & Kathy Robinson, in honor of their wedding anniversary, and by Paul & Dottie Brown, also 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. Sign-up sheets are at the Information Desk.

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!!

Mt Calvary has received a gift in memory of Gary Jennings, Margaret Jennings' son/Beverly Webb's brother, from Riley Hood.

Kids for Christ need paper towel cardboard rolls for our Sunday School craft for the month of September when we learn about Gideon. If you have any extra rolls, please bring them to church and give to Cynthia or put them on the table by her office. Thank you for your assistance!!

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!

I would like to express my gratitude to the congregation of Mount Calvary for their financial assistance. With your help, I was able to volunteer at this year's National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. - Thanks Again! - Cameron Mastenbrook.

Concordia Publishing House's Annual Bible Sale has begun. From now through the end of September you can save approximately 25% on many of the Bibles CPH sells. Just go to their web site (www.cph.org) to see the Bibles that are on sale. There are several special editions available this year.

Senior Fellowship – Come join us for Senior Fellowship **Thursday, August 18th, 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

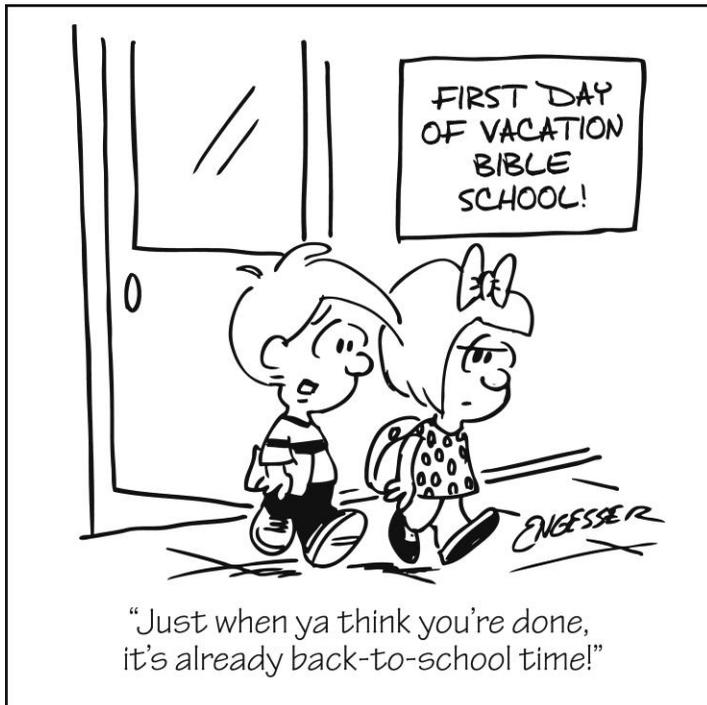
Rebecca's Garden Of Hope Meeting: There will be a meeting for everyone helping with Rebecca's Garden @ Mt. Calvary this Sunday, August 14th, from Noon – 1:30. We will provide the lunch you provide the volunteer power!

High School - TAG Night: The next High School TAG Night will be Sunday, August 21st, 6:30-8:30 pm in the Annex. TAG Nights are a great way to start the week off right! Join us as we gather for food, fun, and fellowship and explore what God's Word has to say to Christians with the help of "Bruce Almighty".

High School Outreach party! Our High School group will be hosting an outreach party for all High School Youth on Saturday, August 27th, from 7-10 pm. The cost for this part is \$5/person but "Party Passes" are available for friend to get in free! These parties are a great place to introduce your friend to the ministry of TAG and the grace of Jesus Christ!

Rebecca's Garden @ Mount Calvary: We will be launching our tutoring center this Tuesday, August 16th. Please keep this ministry in your prayers as we seek to teach 45 children about the love of Christ, support them in their school work, and equip them to make the most of the life God has given them!

New Church Directories are available at the Information Desk in the Narthex.



PRAYER CONCERNS

Monika Reynolds, who has declined dialysis.

Sharon Suckow, who was hospitalized following a stroke.

Mollie Keister, who will be having hip replacement surgery August 16th.

Margaret Frazier, who was hospitalized this week.

Monelle Netzinger, who is recovering from back surgery.

Sue Crawford, Rob's mother, who is battling heart problems and COPD.

Holly Hartley, who is having complications following a root canal.

David Snow, Ray & Doris' son, who is experiencing kidney failure and has a mass on his pancreas.

Betty Ragan, Regina's mom, who fell and broke her leg near the hip socket.

Diane Doyle, who had stents taken out of her pancreas on August 10th.

Josh Johnson, who continues to have issues with his heart.

Keep In Your Prayers

Carol Quednow, Sandi Jacobsmeyer, Bobby & Pat Wolfe, Bill Gragg, Mary Ellen Gragg, Jake Huffman, Delores Lewis, 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) and Bruce Oswalt (Krystal Ferguson's father).

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.

SERVING US TODAY

PREACHER: Vicar Aaron Sterling. **LITURGIST:** Vicar Aaron Sterling. **ELDERS:** Gary Hadley (8 am) and Bill Gragg (10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Nathan LeBorious (8 am) and Libby Parsons (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:** Sue Glaser, Barb Mabee, Ginger Martin, Kathy Robinson & Sharon Suckow. **LAY READERS:** Dick Kesler (8 am) and Cindy Schafer. **SLIDE PREPARER:** Gary Webb. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Early – Nick Jenkins. Late – D. J & Caleb Nelson.

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: Kenn Keyes (Sat 6 pm), Brian Harper (Sun 8 am) and Mark Burnette (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Libby Parsons (Sat 6 pm), Abigail Halsell (Sun 8 am) and Zoe Bowden (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Sallie Brinkley, Barbara Locke, Sherry Parsons & Pat Stetzler. **LAY READERS:** Rob Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Brian Harper (8 am) and John Hunter (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Gary & Lexie Hadley (Sun 8 am) and Gary & Beverly Webb (Sun 10:45 am).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Isaiah 66:18-23 and Hebrews 12:4-29

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday – 57 Early – 75 Late – 172 Total – 304

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Today	6:30 pm	SLDT Meeting
Monday	6:20 pm	Evangelism Callers
	6:30 pm	Women's Small Group
Tuesday	4 – 7 pm	RG@MC
	7-8:30 pm	Rhythm Instrument Make & Take
Wednesday	9:30 pm	Craft & Chat
	5:30 pm	Dinner
	6:00 pm	Adult Bible Study Classes
	6:15 pm	Children/Youth Classes
Thursday	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
	11:00 am	Senior Fellowship
Friday	6:00 pm	Middle School Fall Retreat (thru Sat, 7 pm)
Saturday	10:00 am	Altar Guild Meeting
	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
	5:00 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
Next Sunday	6:30 pm	TAG Night