

**As We Gather**

"All roads lead to God." Such is the philosophy of many people who believe that as long as a person is sincere in their belief, whatever they believe, it will lead them to God. The Bible, though, makes it clear that there is only one way to God and heaven – and that is through Jesus Christ! As Jesus Himself said, "No one comes to the Father except through Me." In our Gospel reading today, Jesus compares entering into heaven, into God's presence, to going through a door. Inside that door is eternal joy and peace! Outside that door is weeping and gnashing of teeth. The good news? People will come from all over the earth ("from east and west, and from north and south") to enter God's eternal home! Let us rejoice that by God's grace, through faith, we are in that number!

**PRELUDE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING**

**OPENING HYMN:**

*"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"*

**Hymn #901**

**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 to God, our Father.

*(please kneel)*

Loving Father,

**We are by nature sinful and unclean. Though we deserve nothing but death for our sins, in Your mercy, You have given Your Son to die for us. For Jesus' sake, please forgive us. Open our hearts to the freedom of life in Your Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Beloved in the Lord, we are not consumed, because the Lord's compassion never fails. His mercies are new every morning, and great is God's faithfulness. 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:**

***"Draw Us to Thee"***

**Draw us to Thee, for then shall we  
Walk in Thy steps forever  
And hasten on where Thou art gone  
To be with Thee, dear Savior.**

**Draw us to Thee; O grant that we  
May walk the road to heaven!  
Direct our way lest we should stray  
And from Thy paths be driven.  
Draw us to Thee that also we  
Thy heavenly bliss inherit  
And ever dwell where sin and hell  
No more can vex our spirit.**

**THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. O Lord, You have called us to enter Your kingdom through the narrow door. Guide us by Your Word and Spirit, and lead us now and always into the feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*(Please be seated.)*

**THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 66:18–23** *(Isaiah affirms God's will that all people should be saved by believing in Him.)*

<sup>18</sup> "For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, <sup>19</sup> and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands far away, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations. <sup>20</sup> And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the LORD, on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the LORD, just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the LORD. <sup>21</sup> And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites, says the LORD.

<sup>22</sup> "For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain. <sup>23</sup> From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the LORD.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**THE EPISTLE READING: Hebrews 12:4–14** (*God disciplines those He loves by His Word that we may enter and dwell in the eternal joys of Mount Zion.*)

<sup>4</sup> In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. <sup>5</sup> And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. <sup>6</sup> For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives."

<sup>7</sup> It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? <sup>8</sup> If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. <sup>9</sup> Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? <sup>10</sup> For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. <sup>11</sup> For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, <sup>13</sup> and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. <sup>14</sup> Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.

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 thirteenth chapter.

Glo-ry to You, O Lord.

**THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 13:22–30** (*Strive to enter by the narrow door.*)

<sup>22</sup> He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem.  
<sup>23</sup> And someone said to him, "Lord, will those who are saved be few?" And he said to them,  
<sup>24</sup> "Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able."  
<sup>25</sup> When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us,' then he will answer you, 'I do not know where you come from.'  
<sup>26</sup> Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.'  
<sup>27</sup> But he will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!'  
<sup>28</sup> In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out.  
<sup>29</sup> And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God.  
<sup>30</sup> And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**G** Praise to You, O Christ.

**THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:**

Pete LeBorious  
Director of Christian Education

**THE HYMN OF THE DAY:**      *"God Loved the World So That He Gave"*      **Hymn #571**

**THE MESSAGE**                                      **"The Door"**                                      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 Pentecost Season is the non-festival half of the Church Year-also known 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:**

*"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 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:**

*"Thine Forever, God of Love"*

**Hymn #687**

### **A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER**

### **THE POSTLUDE**

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Our Altar Flowers were provided this week** by Eileen Mittuch in loving memory of Stephen, and by Toby & Lorraine Jenson, in honor of their 64<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

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

**Newsletter Deadline:** Please have all items for the September Newsletter to the office by Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup>.

**If you would be willing to help cook a meal** one evening for Rebecca's Garden of Hope, please contact Joan Steese. If you can find a partner to work with you that would be even better!!

**Georgia Right to Life (GRTL)**, Houston County Chapter, is having its quarterly meeting on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Chick-Fil-A training center (behind the Chick-Fil-A on Watson Blvd. in the plaza next to Hollywood Nails). The meeting will begin at 6:30 pm, but come for a meal at 6pm, provided by Chick-Fil-A. GRTL exists to encourage respect and legal protection for all human beings from the moment of fertilization until natural death. Come and join in this important conversation!

**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 11<sup>th</sup>. 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.

**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!!

**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](http://www.cph.org)) to see the Bibles that are on sale. There are several special editions available this year.

**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](mailto:fosst@csp.edu).

**What a "warm-fuzzy":** I've been completely overwhelmed by all the get-well cards, messages, and birthday cards from my Mt. Calvary family over the past couple of weeks. Thank You!

~ Monelle Netzinger

**High School - TAG Night:** The next High School TAG Night will be Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, 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 27<sup>th</sup>, 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!

### **PRAYER CONCERNS**

**Mark Douglas**, who was hospitalized this past week with an infection in his blood.

**Mark Iverson**, Bonnie Hudlin's father, who has been diagnosed with bladder cancer and will be having surgery on Monday.

**Molly Hatchcock**, who had gall bladder surgery on Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Sharon Suckow**, who was hospitalized following a stroke.

**Mollie Keister**, who had hip replacement surgery August 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Margaret Frazier**, who was hospitalized this past week.

**Monelle Netzinger**, who is recovering from back surgery.

### **Keep In Your Prayers**

Sue Crawford (Rob's mother), David Snow (Ray & Doris' son), Betty Ragan (Regina's mom), Josh Johnson, Monika Reynolds, 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), 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**

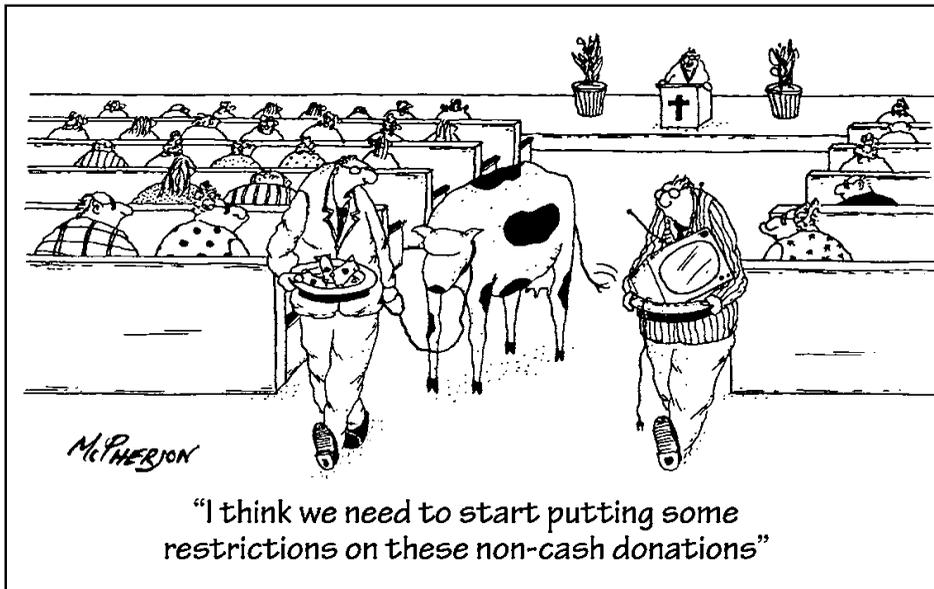
Aaron Gittner, Benjamin Brighton, Emily Whaley, Darrin Landis, Denver Yarbrough, Michael Welch, Jonathan Fetchik and Christian Corbitt, for safety and good health as they serve our country in dangerous areas.



**Rebecca's Garden @ Mount Calvary:** This past Tuesday we began our Rebecca's Garden @ Mount Calvary year with a bang! Thank you to the many volunteers we were able to minister to the 53 students in attendance. RG@MC has several major components that came together Tuesday night for an amazing evening!

- Long before Tuesday night, Karen Harmon and the Registration Team attended the open houses at Miller, Shirley Hills, and Russell Elementary Schools and registered students. The team followed up on nearly every application to make sure the children and parents were ready for RG@MC!
- Every Tuesday begins when our Van Drivers go out and pick up van loads of children from the three elementary schools we are drawing from. (In addition to van riders, we have 14 additional students dropped off by parents.)
- As students arrive they are checked in by our Registration Team and get to work on learning basic keyboard skills in our computer center.
- After keyboard time students take a bathroom and snack break with the help of some of our Faith, Fun, & Fellowship Team.
- With stomachs full and bladders empty, the students are broken into groups of 3-4 student per Tutor for an hour of tutoring. (20 minutes on homework, 20 on math, and 20 on reading.)
- Then time for dinner provided by one of our Faith, Fun & Fellowship Team members.
- The evening wraps up with the student breaking into 3 P.O.D.s for 15 minute rotations. The first is games with the Faith, Fun, & Fellowship Team. Next is some time with Pete as they discuss a variety of life skills. They wrap up with Pastor Brighton talking with them about the Christian Faith.
- We close our time together with Luther's Evening Prayer and the children are either picked up, driven home in the van, or walked next door by some of our team.

As you can see, a lot of people are involved in this effort to reach out to our community with the love of Jesus Christ! Please continue to keep RG@MC in your prayers that God continues to work through and bless this ministry for Mount Calvary and the children we are serving!



## SERVING US TODAY

**PREACHER:** Pastor David Brighton. **LITURGIST:** Pastor David Brighton/Vicar Aaron Sterling. **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:** Sallie Brinkley, Barbara Locke, Sherry Parsons & Pat Stetzler. **LAY READERS:** Brian Harper (8 am) and John Hunter. **SLIDE PREPARER:** Gary Webb. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Early – Nick Jenkins. Late – D. J & Caleb Nelson.

## SERVING US NEXT WEEK

**ELDERS:** Open (Sat 6 pm), Open (Sun 8 am) and Open (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Sara Van Lannen (Sat 6 pm), Cody Halsell (Sun 8 am) and Tyler Longbine (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Sallie Brinkley, Barbara Locke, Sherry Parsons & Pat Stetzler. **LAY READERS:** Dave Miller (Sat 6 pm), Bob Reynolds (8 am) and Barbara Mabee (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Erv & Kathy Robinson (Sun 8 am) and Paul & Dottie Brown (Sun 10:45 am).

## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Proverbs 25:2-10 and Hebrews 13:1-17

## ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

**Saturday – 56 Early – 78 Late – 138 Total – 272**

## THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Today	6:30 pm	TAG Night
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	5:30 pm	Dinner
	6:00 pm	Adult Bible Study Classes
	6:15 pm	Children/Youth Classes
Thursday	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
Saturday	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
	5:00 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
Next Sunday	6:30 pm	SLDT Meeting