

As We Gather

In our Epistle reading, Paul urges the Thessalonians to be busy working for Christ, and not be busybodies. At the time, many people thought Jesus' return in glory might be immanent, and some people thought: "Why even bother working? Jesus is coming soon, so let's just sit back and wait for Him!" But Paul makes it clear that even if Jesus were to come next week, we are to continue doing the work and living our lives as He calls us to do – as His faithful servants and witnesses. On this Dedication Sunday, we rededicate ourselves to living our lives as faithful servants and stewards of Almighty God!

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

OPENING HYMN:

"Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us"

Hymn #851

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 sin, our fears, our weaknesses, and our need of God's help.

(please kneel)

Gracious God,

We confess to You that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and deeds. We confess the weakness of our fears and failures and our forgetfulness of Your mercy toward us. Grant us the strength of Your forgiveness and Your provision of faith, hope, and love, and so enable us to face all challenges of life and remain faithful to You. Amen.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your 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:

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

**All hail the power of Jesus' name
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem and
Crown Him Lord of All.
Bring forth the royal diadem and
Crown Him Lord of All.**

**Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe
On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe and
Crown Him Lord of all.
To Him all majesty ascribe and
Crown Him Lord of all.**

**Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song and
Crown Him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song and
Crown Him Lord of all.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Eternal God, as we face the uncertainties and darkness of life in this world, help us to remember that we serve our Lord Jesus, who is the Light of the World, and that by serving Him we bring honor to Your holy name; 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: Malachi 4:1–6 *(The great day of the Lord)*

¹ "For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ² But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. ³ And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts.

⁴ "Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.

⁵ "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. ⁶ And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING: 2 Thessalonians 3:6–13 (*Warning against idleness*)

⁶ Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us, because we were not idle when we were with you, ⁸ nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you. ⁹ It was not because we do not have that right, but to give you in ourselves an example to imitate. ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. ¹¹ For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. ¹² Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.

¹³ As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

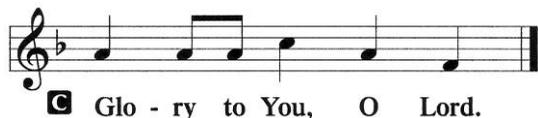
THE ALLELUIA VERSE:



C 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 twenty-first chapter.



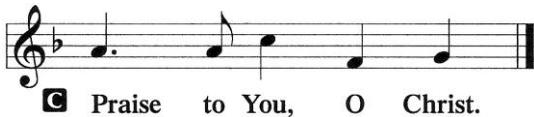
C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 21:29–36 (*Jesus uses the parable of the fig tree to warn us to be ready for His coming.*)

²⁹ And he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. ³⁰ As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴ "But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵ For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

Pastor Brighton

THE HYMN OF THE DAY:

"Take My Life and Let It Be"

Hymn #783

THE MESSAGE

"To Work or Not to Work"

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:

"Praise and Thanksgiving"

**Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer
For all things living, created good:
Harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,
Hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.**

**Bless, Lord, the labor we bring to serve You
That with our neighbor we may be fed.
Sowing or tilling, we would work with You,
Harvesting, milling for daily bread.**

**Father, providing food for Your children,
By Your wise guiding teach us to share
One with another, so that, rejoicing
With us, all others may know Your care.**

DEDICATION OF PLEDGES FOR 2017

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:

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

Hymn #850

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dedication Sunday. Today we will dedicate our pledges to our Lord for our giving in 2017. Please remember that our pledges are simply our good-faith estimate of giving that may go up or down, depending on the circumstances of our income. Our pledges follow our Synod's stewardship definition that are called to manage all of life and life's resources for God's purposes. We are all encouraged to give "firstfruits," that is, off the top and not the leftovers! And remember, please don't just give "to the budget" or "because the church needs it." Our giving should always be to the glory of God – we give back to Him generously of what He so generously gives to us! May God bless our pledges to His glory and the work of His kingdom in this place in 2017!

Men's Breakfast – Guys, don't forget we meet this coming Saturday, November 19th at 8 am in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast, fellowship and a devotion. It's always a good time, so join us! This will be the last Men's Breakfast for 2016. We will take December off and resume in January. Please add your name to the sign-in sheet on the Information Desk.

Our Altar Flowers are provided this week by: Bob & Nancy Gerstenberger, to the glory of God, and by Early & Dot Bogardus, to the glory of God.

On Monday, November 21st the Social Ministry Board will be delivering *Thanksgiving Baskets* to those less fortunate within the local community. If you know of a family that would benefit from this ministry, contact **Liz Hunter at 478-714-9506** or **Brenda Wessling at 478-273-7078** (via text). If you will deliver the groceries yourself, we do not need a name, just number of adults and children. If you prefer that we deliver, we will need name, address, phone number and # of adults and children. We only have resources for about 10 – 12 families (we have 5 thus far), so please contact Liz or Brenda as soon as possible.

Only 3 Weeks Away! Saturday, December 3rd at 9:00 a.m., we are asking any available men at the church to come and have a wonderful breakfast served by the Altar Guild ladies, and then help us put up the Christmas tree (as well as the stand), help us get the poinsettias up above the altar, as well as a couple other things that are more difficult for the ladies. Please watch for a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Hanging of the Greens! In a few short weeks, we will need LOTS of help from the congregation. Sunday, December 4th, immediately following the 10:45 service, we will need help decorating the tree, putting up nativities, and hanging wreathes. Pizza will be there for those who would like a bite to eat before we get started.

Rough Wood and Rusty Nails Rehearsals:
November 13 6:30 Angels for dance routines.

Mt. Calvary has received a gift in memory of Margaret Frazier from D. J. & Cynthia Nelson.

Mt. Calvary has received gifts in memory of Bobby Wolfe from Caroline Martin, Chet & Nancy Branscom and D. J. & Cynthia Nelson.

Annual Progressive Christmas Dinner – Start your Christmas season festivities by enjoying this annual Mt. Calvary event on Friday, December 2nd. The evening begins at 5:30 PM with appetizers in the church Narthex, followed by dinner at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. The dinner menu includes your choice of Chicken Marsala or baked ham with various side dishes. The dessert course will be held at family host homes to be announced. Tickets will be \$5.00 per person and will be sold at all services starting November 12/13. Please mark your attendance on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex beginning that weekend. ALSO, indicate if you are bringing appetizers and/or dessert. Child care will be provided. If you need transportation to and from this event, please contact Deb Fingles with the Board of Fellowship. We hope to see you there!

Ushers Urgently Needed: Due to relocation and job commitments, we have two vacancies on one of the 8 am Usher Teams. If you can help fill one of the vacancies, please call Don Parrott at 922-6106 or email him at parrottd1@cox.net.

Red Cross Blood Drive: MCLC is hosting a blood drive Monday, November 21, from 3:00 to 7:00 pm in the fellowship hall. You can schedule a time using the sign-up sheet on the information counter in the narthex or come without an appointment. To help advertise, there are posters on the information counter. General eligibility requirements are age 17 or older, 110 pounds or more, and good health. For more information, go to the website, "redcrossblood.org," call 1-800-REDCROSS, or talk to Bruce Bauman.

We would like to thank Pete LeBorious, Vicar Aaron Sterling, D. J. Nelson, and all the young men who volunteered to clean up our backyard. They accomplished in 50 minutes what would have taken us 50 hours. All of you are very much appreciated.
- Dale & Jeannie Hawkins and Deloris Denzine.

Men's Basketball - We will be forming a Men's Basketball team this year! Players must be at least 15 years old by January 1st. The season will be January-March. If you or a friend are interested in playing please talk to Vicar Aaron or Bill Bohm. There is a sign-up sheet located on the information desk.

Mt. Calvary has received a gift in memory of Belle Wright from Craig & Patricia Schmidt.

Dear friends, thank you for the many good wishes and joyous cards you sent for our 50th wedding anniversary. We opened cards all month long! We are blessed and honored that you joined us in our celebration. We thank God for our years together and for His love and gracious provision. To God be the glory! Barbara and Bruce Bauman

Senior Fellowship - Come join us for Senior Fellowship **Thursday, November 17th, 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.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Erika Swaim (Marcia Brighton's mother), who is recovering from surgery for a broken hip and elbow suffered in a fall.

John White, who is recovering from thyroid surgery.

Barb Mabee, who is hospitalized.

Laura Haas, who remains hospitalized with a number of medical concerns, but is breathing better.

Pastor Brighton, who is recovering from knee surgery.

Bev Ellgass, who is suffering from trigeminal neuralgia which causes her to have major pain in her face.

Keep In Your Prayers

Tracie Frey, Alyce Quillin, Doris Snow, Margaret Jennings, Mike Longbine, Sheila Grube, Monika Reynolds, Kurt Rover, 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, Darrin Landis, Denver Yarbrough, 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 Aaron Sterling. **ELDERS:** Eric Jenkins (8 am) and Mark Burnette (10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Sway Cronin (8 am) and Maddy Hagemann (10:45 am). **USHERS:** Early – Laird Van Gorder, Brent Durbin, & Dick Kesler. Late – DJ Nelson, Don Netzinger, Adam Beecher, Dave Miller, Bob Day & Larry Ellgass. **ALTAR GUILD:** Sallie Brinkley, Barbara Locke, Sherry Parsons & Pat Stetzler. **LAY READERS:** Judy Van Gorder (8 am) and Bonnie Hudlin (10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Debi Cole. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Early – Louis Foss. Late – Josh Johnson.

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: Eric Gossman (Sat 6 pm), Brian Harper (Sun 8 am) and Bob Gerstenberger. **ACOLYTES:** Christopher Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Caleb Durbin (Sun 8 am) and Libby Parsons (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Debbie Fingles, Kathy Grube, Susan Julson & Linna Nielsen. **LAY READERS:** John Harmon (Sat 6 pm), Linna Nielsen (8 am) and D. J. Nelson (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Barbara Locke (Sun 8 am) and Betty Cummings & Nancy Hoar (Sun 10:45 am).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Malachi 3:13-18 and Colossians 3:13-20

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday – 50 Early – 100 Late – 163 Total – 313

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Today	12:00 pm	Veterans Luncheon
	2 – 4 pm	Community Survey
Monday	6:30 pm	SLDT Meeting
	11:00 am	Daytime Callers
	6:20 pm	Evangelism Callers
Tuesday	6:30 pm	Women's Small Group
	4 – 7 pm	RG@MC Tutoring
Wednesday	9:30 am	Craft & Chat
	5:30 pm	Thanksgiving Dinner
	6:00 pm	Christian Fellowship & Education
	7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir
Thursday	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
	11:00 am	Senior Fellowship
Saturday	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast
	8 am-1 pm	LWML BAZAAR
Next Sunday	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
	5:00 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
	12 – 3 pm	8 th Grade Workshop
	6:30 pm	TAG Night