

As We Gather

The word "boast" is one that can have a wide variety of meanings and applications. Initially we may portray the word in a negative way, as we teach the children that it is not polite to boast. Yet there is a form of "blessed boasting." Hymn writer Johann Olearius, who lived in the seventeenth century, sums up that form of boasting simply as he writes: "The Lord, my God, be praised, In whose great name I boast" Boasting in Christ can be more than polite. Boasting in Christ, lovingly and winsomely expressed, can be a confession of faith.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

OPENING HYMN:

"The Lord, My God Be Praised

Hymn #794

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.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



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.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE:

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.



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. Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; 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: Micah 6:1–8 (*God's great deeds have not been reflected in His people's lives.*)

¹ Hear what the LORD says: Arise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ² Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the LORD has an indictment against his people, and he will contend with Israel.

³ "O my people, what have I done to you? How have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴ For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵ O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the LORD."

⁶ "With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷ Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" ⁸ He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE ANTHEM: (10:45)

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

Sanctuary Choir

THE EPISTLE READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18–31 (*Let him who boasts boast in the Lord.*)

¹⁸ For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

²⁶ For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹ so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

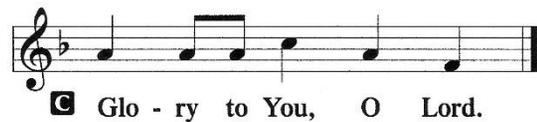
THE ALLELUIA VERSE:



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. Matthew the fifth chapter.

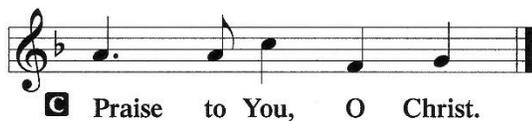


Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12 *(The beatitudes from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount promise blessings to all of the saints.)*

- ¹ Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:
- ³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
⁴ "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.
¹⁰ "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
¹¹ "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.
¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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:

"Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me"

Hymn #722

THE MESSAGE:

"Upside Down"

Vicar Aaron

Sterling

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!)

++ The Stewardship Thought ++

The word "epiphany" means to "reveal or make known."

"I will make You as a light for the nations, that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth."
(Isaiah 49:6b)

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 you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

THE CLOSING HYMN: "*I Leave ALL Things to God's Direction*" **Hymn #719**

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Voters Meeting Today at noon, with lunch preceding the meeting. There will be reports from staff and committees, along with a vote on the 2017 budget and election of officers and board members.

Our Altar Flowers were provided this week by Bill & Arlene Zeuner, in honor of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Mount Calvary has received memorial donations in honor of Laura Haas from Riley Hood, Robert & Martha Bacon, Gary & Carolyn Cizek and Wayne & Kay Beasley, Carl & Barb Mabee, Doug & Deb Fingles, Vivian Stillely, Dwight & Marlene Miller, Carl & Charleen Beahm and Dave & Lois Harter.

Thank you all for the Christmas gift. My heart is truly blessed to be able to serve this congregation by working in the Nursery each week. I really enjoy the children and families who use the Nursery. I am truly blessed to be a part of the Mt. Calvary family. - In Christ, Tian Foss.

Mount Calvary has received a memorial donation in honor of Monika Reynolds from Timothy & Deborah Wing and The Morning Glories Women's Bible Study Group.

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Mount Calvary has received a memorial donation in honor of former member Richard Hollinger from Carl & Barbara Mabee.

New Wednesday Night Study! Join us beginning this Wednesday at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall, Classroom #1 for a new Bible study focusing on Paul's letters to Timothy, Titus and Philemon. This study is part of the LifeLight series and we hope you'll come!

Our Basketball Team's Games are played at the Recreation Department Gym or at First Baptist Church Garmon Street's Gym. This week we are playing Hebron Fellowship Baptist on Tuesday at 9 pm at the Rec Dept, and Shady Grove on Thursday at 7:15 pm at First Baptist Garmon Street gym. Please come out and cheer for our team.

Sweetheart Dinner coming SOON! Sunday, February 12th, is the date of the Sweetheart Dinner, in the MFH. Bring your sweetie to this evening filled with a delicious dinner (baked chicken, potato casserole, vegetable, salad and rolls), entertainment (with a chance for many people to win prizes), and a "Chocolate Dessert Contest." All this for the low price of \$7.50 per person. This evening is a night for adults only, but babysitting will be provided. Attire is "semi-formal," but feel free to go all out! Tickets will be available TODAY at the Information Desk. Come and join the fun! For more information, contact the Board of Fellowship – Adam, Ruthie, Hannah, Heather, Suzanne, Becky, Quentin, Keith, Mike or our Elder, Darron

Dessert Contest at the Sweetheart Dinner – If you LOVE to bake, this is for you! We will have a contest with prizes to decide the "Most Delicious," the "Most Beautiful Presentation," and the "Most Unique Presentation." Of course, it's all about the **CHOCOLATE!** Judges are NEEDED! However, if you would like to bring a dessert that is not chocolate, we will welcome it, however, it won't be judged in the contest. Bring your appetite on Sunday, February 12th at 6:00 p.m.

Bakers . . . Do You Love to Bake? Does seeing others enjoy your baking talents bring a smile to your face? Well . . . get ready to smile! Fellowship would like to invite Mt. Calvary to liven up our coffee area with fresh baked items! No sign-up required! Muffins, cookies, breads. . . all are encouraged! Let's make the time that we visit with others over a hot cup of coffee and a pastry, something a little special. I'm sure our visitors will certainly enjoy it, as will ALL of Mt. Calvary! Board of Fellowship



Party With Marty: This is a year-long competition to see how many times you can get our picture taken with Martin Luther around town. This week the time and place are easy. Be at the Voter's Meeting this Sunday, January 29th!

Our Ushers for February: Early – Erv Robinson, Paul Keister, Fred Hursey, Steve Kirchoff & Eric Gossman. Late Dwight Miller, Roger Moeller, John Hunter, Jim Morey & Cameron Mastenbrook.

Please consider signing up for altar flowers for the glory of God and to beautify the church. There is a very large number of empty slots on our flower chart and there is no money in our budget for these flowers. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

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PRAYER CONCERNS

Opal Key, Dianne Damron's mother, who is hospitalized with a broken hip.

Margaret Jennings, who is in The Lodge rehab facility.

Cynthia Trichinotis, who is recovering from a stroke at home.

Denise Forehand, who is recovering from an infection in her knee.

Hiltraud Culpepper, who is recovering from knee surgery.

Gunner Burnam, Carolyn's 13-year-old great-nephew, who has a tumor mass on his brain stem.

Bill Bohm, who had a cancerous part of his large intestine removed and the pathology report showed he is now cancer free.

Marie White, who has a stress fracture in her foot.

Keep In Your Prayers

Phyllis Yeager (Bob's mom), Ruth Brighton (Pastor's mom), Kurt Rover, Doris Snow, Irving Peterson (Roger's father), Ronald Ragan (Regina's brother), Opal Key (Dianne Damron's mother), Alyce Quillin, Margaret Jennings, Rosie Schulz, 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: Chet Branscom, Jace Cumbie (Amanda McVay's boyfriend's son), Diana Iverson (Bonnie Hudlin's sister-in-law), 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 Oswald (Krystal Ferguson's father).

Those Serving our Country in Dangerous Areas

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: Vicar Aaron Sterling. **LITURGIST:** Pastor David Brighton. **ELDERS:** Eric Gossman (8 am) & Bill Gragg (10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Abigail Halsell (8 am) & Colton Wurdeman (10:45 am). **USHERS:** Early – Don Parrott, Ralph Wenrick, Dale Hawkins & Roger Foss. Late Paul Ferguson, Sam Culpepper, Dale Channell, Champ Aldredge & Mark Burnette. **ALTAR GUILD:** Sallie Brinkley, Barbara Locke, Sherry Parsons & Pat Stetzler. **LAY READERS:** Glen Thompson (8 am) & Dave Harter (10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Christi Bacon. **PROJECTIONIST:** Early - Lyle Wurdeman. Late – Kyle Webb.

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: Rob Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Darron Counselman (Sun 8 am) & Open (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Maddy Hagemann (Sat 6 pm), Tucker Gossman (Sun 8 am) & Zoe Babcock (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Sallie Brinkley, Barbara Locke, Sherry Parsons & Pat Stetzler. **LAY READERS:** Sue Glaser (Sat 6 pm), Steve Soisson (Sun 8 am) and Barbara Bauman (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Tyson & Sara Van Lannen (Sun 8 am), and Dave & Lois Harter (Sun 10:45 am).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Isaiah 58:3-9a and 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday - 37 Early – 85 Late - 148 Total – 270

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Today	12:00 pm	Voters Meeting
	6:30 pm	TAG Night
Monday	6:20 pm	Evangelism Callers
	6:30 pm	Women's Small Group
Tuesday	4 – 7 pm	RG@MC Tutoring
Wednesday	9:30 am	Morning Glories
	5:30 pm	Christian Fellowship & Education
	7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir
Thursday	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
Friday	6 – 9 pm	Middle School Party
Saturday	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
	5:00 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
Next Sunday	6–10 pm	HS Super Bowl Party