

As We Gather

Prepare to be changed! Each time God's people gather for worship, change occurs. As we hear the Gospel proclaimed and celebrate the Lord's Supper, we are renewed and become strengthened, supported, and fed. God initiates the change in us as the Holy Spirit works in and among us. Turn from God to follow the ways of the world and our own sinful passions, God is there again to initiate change by calling us to repent and turn from sin back to Him. In this season which celebrates Jesus as the Light of the World, may we thank God for the continuing growth that He graciously grants us and follow His call to service and witness!

PRELUDE**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING****OPENING HYMN:***"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"***Hymn #686****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

"When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy." Let us go to Him, confident that He will grant us forgiveness for Jesus' sake.

(please kneel)

Heavenly Father,

We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have failed to exhibit goodness, the fruit of Your Holy Spirit, in our thinking, speaking, and acting. We have not always chosen life, loving the Lord our God, obeyed His voice, and held fast to Him. We have not always sought to be reconciled to one another. Our Lord Jesus revealed His person and ministry through His words and actions. In Your great mercy, forgive, renew, and lead us so that we may be revealed as His faith-filled followers 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.

HYMN OF PRAISE: "How Can I Thank You, Lord"

**How can I thank You, Lord, for all Your loving kindness,
That You have patiently borne with me in my blindness!
When dead in many sins and trespasses I lay,
I kindled, holy God, Your anger every day.**

**Lord, You have raised me up to joy and exultation
And clearly shown the way that leads me to salvation.
My sins are washed away; For this I thank You, Lord.
Now with my heart and soul all evil I abhor.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Father in heaven, throughout His earthly ministry, Jesus revealed His identity and mission through words and deeds. Lead us to also serve You as by word and deed we bear witness to Your unfailing love; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, 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: Deuteronomy 30:15–20 *(Choose life!)*

¹⁵ "See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. ¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, ²⁰ loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING: 1 Corinthians 3:1–9 *(Only God gives growth.)*

¹ But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ² I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, ³ for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? ⁴ For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not being merely human?

⁵ What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶ I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷ So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸ He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. ⁹ For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building.

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 HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 5:21–37 (*Jesus teaches about the Law with authority.*)

²¹ "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.' ²² But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³ So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵ Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. ²⁶ Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

²⁷ "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' ²⁸ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹ If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. ³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

³¹ "It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.'³² But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³ "Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.'³⁴ But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God,³⁵ or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.³⁶ And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black.³⁷ Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



THE CHILDRENS MESSAGE

Pastor Brighton

THE CHILDRENS ANTHEM: (10:45) *"Love, Love, Love," "We Love," "The Gift of Love"*

HYMN OF THE DAY: *"Oh, that the Lord Would Guide My Ways"* **Hymn #707**

THE MESSAGE: *"A Question of Relationship"* 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 ++

"Epiphany" is a word that means to reveal or make known. The Epiphany season is about a most important revelation: the revealing of Jesus Christ as the Savior of the nations!

Ponder Simeon's words as he held the baby Jesus:

"My eyes have seen Your salvation!" (Luke 2:30)

THE 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:

"On What Has Now Been Sown"

Hymn #921

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lutheran Hour Sunday! Today we celebrate Lutheran Hour Sunday. The Lutheran Hour radio broadcast, has for three generations been one of the most widely broadcast radio shows in the world! Please read the insert that explains more about the ministries of The Lutheran Hour and note the envelope that is provided for all those who would like to financially support this important arm of the church.

Our Altar Flowers were provided this week by Stephen & Jackie Kaestner in honor of the birth of their grandson Bryson.

Mount Calvary has received memorial donations in honor of Laura Haas from Lyle & Carrie Wurdeman, Jeff & Molly Townsend and The Morning Glories Women's Bible Study Group.

Evangelism Kickoff Lunch - Sunday, February 26, 12:15pm the Outreach Board will sponsor a lunch for all those interested in learning more about our Monday Night Evangelism Ministry. There will be a video presentation with some personal testimonies and a great lunch. This is an informational lunch and no commitment is required from those who 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 First Baptist Byron on Thursday at 7:15 pm at First Baptist Garmon Street gym. Please come out and cheer for our team.

Men's Breakfast – Guys! It's time to sign up at the Information Desk for this month's breakfast. We'll meet at 8:00 am in the Michael Fellowship Hall on **Saturday, February 18th**. Join us for good food and fellowship. Those "young men" of high school age and older are invited!

Great news! The online marketing firm, Amazon is now offering to donate 0.5% of the amount of all orders to the charity of your choice, and it costs you (and our church) nothing! Naturally, many of our members and friends may want to take advantage of this "free money" for our church. Visit <http://tinyurl.com/hdv9vhh> to learn how to activate this benefit, or just go to the church website main page and click on "Amazon Smile" under "Announcements." An Amazon page will open and you can learn from there how to set it up. Just please be sure to designate Mount Calvary Lutheran Church as the beneficiary.

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

Macon Mayhem Game: TAG families will be going to a Macon Mayhem game on Friday, February 17th. The cost is \$15/person (that includes a Mayhem Hat!). The game Starts @ 7:30 for families meeting us there. Youth planning on riding with TAG will meet at the Annex at 6:15. Tickets are first paid, first seated so by your tickets from Pete today!

Youth Board Meeting: The Youth Board will meet Sunday, February 19th, Noon – 1:30 in the conference room.

High School TAG Night: The next TAG Night will be Sunday, February 19th, from 6:30-8:30 in the Annex. TAG Nights are a time of fellowship and faith as we gather around games, food, and Bible-centered discussion about living as children of God. Friends are always welcome!

High School Mission Trip Information Meeting: There will be a meeting for all youth currently in 8th – 12th grade and their parents on Sunday, February 26th, from 6:30-8:00 in the Annex. At this meeting we will be going over the details for this summer's mission trip to Cincinnati, Ohio the week of June 4th – 11th. This trips are amazing faith & fellowship experiences for our High School Youth, please make every effort to be attend with your child for details and answers to any questions you might have regarding the trip.

Party With Marty: There will be 2 opportunities to get your picture taken with Mary this week! The first will be a the Valentine's Dinner this Sunday, February 12th (For the picture to count, you must be giving Marty a kiss!) The second opportunity will be at the Macon Mayhem game on Friday, February 17th.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Chet Branscom, who is hospitalized.

Jeannie Hawkins, who had knee surgery on Thursday.

Neal Cowan, who had a successful heart procedure on Wednesday.

Kim Rekau, Ed's wife, who is recovering from surgery to remove the mass on her colon.

Margaret Jennings, who is in The Lodge rehab facility.

Bill Bohm, who is recovering from colon cancer surgery.

Cynthia Trichinotis, who continues her recovery from a stroke.

Keep In Your Prayers

Opal Key (Dianne Damron's mother), Denise Forehand, Hiltraud Culpepper, Gunner Burnam (Carolyn's great-nephew), Marie White, Phyllis Yeager (Bob's mom), Ruth Brighton (Pastor's mom), Kurt Rover, Doris Snow, Irving Peterson (Roger's father), Ronald Ragan (Regina's brother), 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

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 Oswalt (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: Pastor David Brighton. **LITURGIST:** Pastor David Brighton. **ELDERS:** Eric Jenkins (8 am) & Mark Burnette (10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Abby Soisson (8 am) & Koda Cook (10:45 am). **USHERS:** Early – Erv Robinson, Paul Keister, Fred Hursey, Steve Kirchoff & Eric Gossman. Late Dwight Miller, Roger Moeller, John Hunter, Jim Morey & Cameron Mastenbrook. **ALTAR GUILD:** Debbie Fingles, Kathy Grube, Susan Julson & Linna Nielsen. **LAY READERS:** Bob Yeager (8 am) & Bob Gerstenberger (10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Roger Moeller. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Early – Tanner Gossman. Late – Trevor Hudlin.

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: Rob Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Darron Counselman (Sun 8 am) & Bill Gragg (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Christopher Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Sara Van Lannen (Sun 8 am) & Lynn Cook (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Debbie Fingles, Kathy Grube, Susan Julson & Linna Nielsen. **LAY READERS:** Debi Cole (Sat 6 pm), Doug Fingles (Sun 8 am) and Bruce Bauman (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Deb Fingles (Sun 8 am), and Earl & Dot Bogardus (Sun 10:45 am).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18 and 1 Corinthians 3:10-13

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday - 56 Early - 106 Late - 148 Total - 310
Karenni Worship: 75

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Today	11:00 am	Karenni Worship Service (Annex)
	6:00 pm	Sweetheart Dinner
Monday	6:30 pm	SLDT Meeting
	6:20 pm	Evangelism Callers
	6:30 pm	Women's Small Group
Tuesday	4 – 7 pm	RG@MC Tutoring
	7:00 pm	Council
Wednesday	9:30 am	Craft & Chat
	5:30 pm	Christian Fellowship & Education
	7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir
Thursday	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
	11:00 am	Senior Fellowship
Friday	6:15 pm	TAG to Macon Mayhem
Saturday	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast
	3:00 pm	Karenni Bible Study (Annex)
	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
	5:00 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
Next Sunday	11:00 am	Karenni Worship Service (Annex)
	12:00 pm	Youth Board
	6:30 pm	TAG Night