

As We Gather

When we hear the name "Moses" we think of that great hero of the Old Testament who confronted Pharaoh in Egypt and ultimately led the people of Israel out of Egypt to the Promised Land. But at the beginning, Moses wasn't so sure he was the person for the job. Moses had many self-doubts and wondered if he was worthy of such a task. Today we will revisit the call of Moses at the burning bush and be reminded that we who are unworthy of God's call still receive because of the blood of Jesus – which makes us unworthy sinners worthy of accomplishing many things for Him!

Holy Communion

Holy Communion is being celebrated today. It is the belief of the Lutheran Church, based on Jesus' own words, that in this Sacrament His body and blood are really present and that forgiveness of sins and the assurance of salvation are offered to all who come confessing their sins and believing in Him. Communion is therefore offered to those who share this confession of faith. Children who are not yet confirmed are invited to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing. Guests who may have questions about Communion at Mt. Calvary are encouraged to talk to Pastor Brighton.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

OPENING HYMN: *"Oh Lord, Throughout These Forty Days"* **Hymn #418**

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 HYMN OF PRAISE: *"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"*

**Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace!**

**See all your sins on Jesus laid;
The Lamb of God was slain.
His soul was once and offering made
For ev'ry soul of man.**

**To God all glory, praise, and love
Be now and ever giv'n
By saints below and saints above
The Church in earth and heav'n.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, Your Son was led into the wilderness by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan. Come quickly to help us who, because of our weaknesses, are assaulted by many temptations. Give each one of us strength and victory through Jesus Christ the Conqueror, 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: Exodus 3:1-12 *(Moses, standing on holy ground, receives God's call to rescue the Israelites.)*

¹ Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ² And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. ³ And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." ⁴ When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵ Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." ⁶ And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

⁷ Then the LORD said, "I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, ⁸ and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹ And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰ Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." ¹¹ But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" ¹² He said, "But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING: Romans 5:12–19 (*Paul writes of the life-giving work of Christ that accomplishes our justification.*)

¹² Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— ¹³ for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. ¹⁴ Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. ¹⁶ And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. ¹⁷ For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

¹⁸ Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. ¹⁹ For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE VERSE FOR LENT: "Return to the Lord"



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra-cious and

mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

THE HOLY GOSPEL IS ANNOUNCED:

The Holy Gospel according to St Matthew the fourth chapter.

☐ Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1–11 (*Jesus is led into the wilderness by the Spirit.*)

¹ Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³ And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴ But he answered, "It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."" ⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶ and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you," "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone."" ⁷ Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, "You shall not put the Lord your God to the test."" ⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve."" ¹¹ Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

☐ Praise to You, O Christ.

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

Tim Jacobsmeyer
Director of Music

THE HYMN OF THE DAY:

"Hark the Voice of Jesus Crying"

Hymn #826

THE MESSAGE:

"Who Am I?"

Vicar Aaron Sterling

THE NICENE CREED:

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS: After each petition, the Worship Leader will say, "*Lord in Your mercy,*" and the congregation will respond, "*Hear our prayer.*"

THE GATHERING OF THE TITHES AND OFFERINGS

++ The Stewardship Thought ++

The Lenten season calls on us to remember that we are but dust and ashes. It is not WE who can present anything to God to merit forgiveness – it is GOD who comes to us and speaks the words every sinner longs to hear: "Your sins are forgiven you. Go in peace!"

OFFERTORY HYMN:

"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 ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, King of the universe. Grant that we may live with sure confidence in the graciousness of Your plan for our lives and await with hope the abundant inheritance to come in Your glorious presence. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, forevermore praising You and singing:



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Bless-ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

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 WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION *(The center cup in each tray is white grape juice for pregnant moms or those allergic to alcohol.)*

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: *"The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord"* Hymn #634, st. 1-4, 8
"Your Table I Approach" Hymn #628
"O Jesus, Blessed Lord to Thee" Hymn #632

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Blessed are You, heavenly Father and King eternal, for You have once again fed and nourished us at Your Table through the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the glorious Conqueror and our victorious Lord. Strengthen us through this gracious Meal that we may live without fear, confidently resist temptation, and know that we are worthy to share Your blessings through a life of service. Support us in this life and bring us at last to the unending feast in Your eternal kingdom, where You live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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: *"O Word of God Incarnate"* Hymn #523

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2017 LCEF Summer Internship Program! This year LCEF is advertising for two paid job opportunities, one in Lending and Real Estate Management and the other in Marketing and Customer Support. We are excited to offer a place for college students to learn more about their potential career endeavors and gain experience in a professional environment. You can find and read more information on LCEF's website: <http://lcef.org/internship/>. Deadline for applicants is **April 12**.

Our Altar Flowers were provided this week by Rhoda Reilly, in memory of Ken Reilly (March 1); Sally Brinkley, in memory of John's birthday; and Riley Hood, in memory of Mary's birthday.

Help Needed! Due to a number of circumstances our faithful teller teams have suffered a number of losses recently. To avoid over extending our current teams we need several members to fill a number of vacancies. Ideally, teller teams take turns counting every five or six weeks. Experience is not a requirement as new team members can be paired with experienced people for training. If you are willing to help, please contact a member of the Board of Stewardship. Steve Hetes 478-919-4432.

I would like to thank my church family for the dinners, phone calls, cards, and especially the prayers since my stroke. I'm doing better, but please don't stop prayers for me, and for Linna. We are very grateful for all your concern and are blessed to belong to such a caring church.

- Dave Nielsen

I would like to let everyone know how touched I was by so many birthday and anniversary cards. I love being part of this wonderful Mt. Calvary family. - Barb Mabee

Groundbreaking for the Phase II Education Wing at Christ Lutheran, Perry will be held on Sunday, March 12 at 11:30 am, immediately following our 10:30 am worship. **You are invited to join us!** A free-will offering pork chop luncheon will be served at 12 Noon. *Laborers for Christ* will be arriving to begin construction on this 3,300 square foot addition in May.

Give this a try! Our congregation is dedicated to telling others about Jesus and our Board of Outreach is in need of a creative, computer savvy person to help with ideas for newspaper articles, radio ads, military newsletters, community surveys and any other ideas to communicate our message to the community that we are here to serve and we are all about "Connecting people to Jesus and to one another to serve the world!" If you are interested or if you have questions, please talk to Valerie Counselman or Regina Ragan.

Food Drive News: Keep up the great job of donating! Keep your reusable paper and plastic bags coming! Thanks for all your help. Items needed for March: 11/12 – Pancake Mix, Syrup, Grits and Granola Bars. 18/19 – Toilet Paper, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste & Seasoning Packets (taco, stew, chili, meat loaf, etc.). 25/26 – Spring Break – Please donate any canned good items of your choice.

Mount Calvary has received memorial donations in honor of Phyllis Yeager from Doug & Deb Fingles and Don & Judy Parrott.

Mount Calvary has received a memorial donation in honor of Laura Haas from Bill & Jacque Bohm.

Church Picnic Time! Mark your calendar for Saturday, March 18th, from 10:00-2:00 pm for the "Family Fun & Corn Hole" Day (with a German twist)! It will be held in the LARGE yard of Darron and Val Counselman's home, 301 Ellicott Dr., WR (a stone's throw from Monkey Joes). We'll have corn hole from 10-noon, then all kinds of food for lunch! Burgers, brats, German potato salad & brew (provided by the Board of Fellowship), and we'd like to ask everyone to bring a dessert or side dish (you can indicate which one on the sign-up sheet.) After lunch, we'll have some GREAT games for ALL ages, PLUS AN INFLATABLE 'SOMETHING' for the kids! Rumor has it . . . you may just see our version of the "Autobahn" recreated for one of the games on their lawn!!!! So bring your lawn chair, a dish to share, and a desire to have lots of fun with other folks! Sign up today on the sheet at the Information Desk in the Narthex.

Attention All Guys: The March Edition of the Men's Breakfast will be held on Saturday, March 18 at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. The sign-up sheet is at the information desk. See you at breakfast.

Mt Calvary – Thank you so much for your recent donation of over 60 pair of eyeglasses to MOST Ministries. You may never know, until you get to heaven, how much those glasses meant to the person who received them. We hear such wonderful, heartwarming stories about how the glasses changed someone's life. These stories touch our hearts. We usually have the opportunity to witness to the people as they come to the clinic, and tell them about Jesus and His love for each of them. Then their lives can truly be changed. We are truly blessed by your continuing partnership in our eyeglass ministry. You are precious in His sight and in ours. - Lynn H. Wrightson, Volunteer Director.

Concert at Mount Calvary – Concordia Academy is a Lutheran High School located in St. Paul, Minnesota. The school emphasizes academic excellence and nurtures spiritual growth in Christ. The student body numbers about 275 students in grades 9 – 12, over half of which are involved in the music program. *Concordia Academy Choir* is an award-winning concert group, earning superior scores at annual Minnesota state choral contests. The choir specializes in choral literature of a variety of styles and will present a quality program of inspiring choral music on **March 19, 2017**. A potluck meal will be held in the Michael Fellowship Hall at 5:30 with the concert beginning at 6:30 in the Sanctuary. Pot Luck sign-up Sheet will be on the Information Desk. Host families are needed to house Students from the Choir for the night and return them to Mt. Calvary Monday morning. Contact Tian Foss 478-973-2622 or email fosst@csp.edu They say it's "Minnesota Nice", but let's show them Southern Hospitality!! Thank you in Advance for your support.

Spring Work Day – On Saturday March 18th, after the Men's Breakfast, the Trustees will be heading up our SPRING workday. We plan to work from approximately 9 AM to Noon. We are planning to clean and organize the Garage/Shop areas as well as the MFH storage areas. Other items that may be on the agenda, depending on weather, would be sanding and painting a few of the outdoor guard railings. Bring your gloves and clipping tools if you would like to help with any cutting or pruning areas that may need attention. All are encouraged to come out and help beautify our church property. Contact John Hunter at 335-3426 for more information.

PRAYER CONCERNS

The family of Betty Ragan, Regina's mom, who died March 1st.

Katilyn Yarbrough, who fell (while tumbling) and broke both bones in her right forearm.

Jeanne Day, former member and Bob Day's mom, who has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

Bev Ellgass, who had brain surgery and is still in a lot of pain.

Shirley Ermi, who is very ill.

Pat Aldredge, who is at home recovering from knee replacement surgery.

Helen Giese, who is awaiting heart surgery.

Chet Branscom, who is battling a setback with his cancer.

Keep In Your Prayers

Mary Jean Boyette, Jeannie Hawkins, Jan Clark, Kim Rekau, Bill Bohm, Cynthia Trichinotis, Neal Cowan, Margaret Jennings, Opal Key (Dianne Damron's mother), Denise Forehand, Hiltraud Culpepper, Gunner Burnam (Carolyn's great-nephew), Marie White, Ruth Brighton (Pastor's mom), Kurt Rover, Doris Snow, Irving Peterson (Roger's father), 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: Vicar Aaron Sterling. **LITURGIST:** Vicar Aaron Sterling. **ELDERS:** Gary Hadley (8 am) & Roger Moeller (10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Caleb Durbin (8 am) & Carlee Toler (10:45 am). **USHERS:** Early – Dick Kesler, Brent Durbin, Doug Fingles & Doug Branham. Late – D. J. Nelson, Don Netzinger, Adam Beecher, Dave Miller, Bob Day & Larry Ellgass. **ALTAR GUILD:** Marcia Brighton, Valerie Counselman, Denise Forehand & Nancy Hoar. **LAY READERS:** Carrie Wurdeman (8 am) & Bonnie Hudlin (10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Gary Webb. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Early – Nick Jenkins. Late – Josh Johnson.

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: Rob Crawford (Wed 7 pm), Rob Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Gary Hadley (Sun 8 am) & Don Netzinger (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Abby Soisson (Sat 6 pm), Taitum Gossman (Sun 8 am) & Libby Parsons (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Lois Harter, Melinda Hopf, Ruth Miller, Suzanne O'Daniel & Maureen Young. **LAY READERS:** Jim Morey (Wed 7 pm), Bill Bohm (Sat 6 pm), Rich Losert (Sun 8 am) and D. J. Nelson (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Paul & Mollie Keister (Sun 8 am), and Paul & Dottie Brown (Sun 10:45 am).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Joshua 24:14-25 and Romans 4:1-8

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday - 47 Early – 87 Late - 171 Total –305
Karenni Worship: 79

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Today	11:00 am	Karenni Worship Service (Annex)
	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
	6:30 pm	Boards
	7:30 pm	Elders
Wednesday	6:00 pm	Dinner
	7:00 pm	Worship
	7:45 pm	Sanctuary Choir (after Worship)
Thursday	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
Saturday	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)
	6:30 pm	SLDT Meeting