

As We Gather

The Roman world worshiped many gods and had numerous official religions. By proclaiming Jesus as the only way, truth, and life, the Church set itself apart from all others. It took Jesus' personal revelation to the disciples to get them to see who He was. After Easter, Stephen and those who would follow him witnessed to our Lord not only with their words, but with their very lives. By the grace of God, they were able to see how He had been prophesied about throughout Scripture, as Peter writes in the Epistle. And now, like the arrows on a one-way street, we witness to Jesus, the only way to the Father.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

OPENING HYMN:

"He's Risen, He's Risen"

Hymn #480

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)

We give thanks, Lord Jesus, for apostles and martyrs who have gone before us.

We confess that we have not always made a clear witness to the salvation You won for us in Your death and resurrection. Forgive us, and give us opportunities to witness to You, the way, the truth, and the life.

We give thanks, heavenly Father, that You graciously call us Your holy nation, Your royal priesthood.

We confess that in our life and conduct we have too often reflected the world around us rather than our membership in the Body of Christ. Forgive us, and strengthen us to walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.

We give thanks, O Holy Spirit, that You have worked faith in our hearts so that we may approach the throne of grace with every petition.

We confess that too often we seek to bend Your will to ours, failing to trust You not only for the place You have prepared for us in eternity, but also for that which is best for us today. Forgive us, and open our hearts to receive Your answers, which are always better than our prayers. 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:

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

**Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, His the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation has redeemed us by His blood."**

**Alleluia! Bread of heaven, here on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! Here the sinful flee to You from day to day.
Intercessor, Friend of sinners, Earth's Redeemer, hear our plea
Where the song of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; 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 FIRST READING Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60 *(Stephen, the first martyr, dies for his Lord.)*

¹ Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution.

² And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables." ³ Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. ⁴ But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." ⁵ And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch.

⁶ These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. ⁷ And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

⁸ And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people.

⁹ Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen.

² And Stephen said: ⁵¹ "You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. ⁵² Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, ⁵³ you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it." ⁵⁴ Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. ⁵⁵ But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." ⁵⁷ But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. ⁵⁸ Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

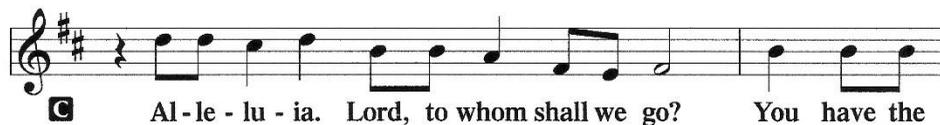
THE EPISTLE READING: 1 Peter 2:2–10 (*Peter's encouragement: we are living stones in God's house.*)

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴ As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵ you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." ⁷ So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," ⁸ and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." ⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

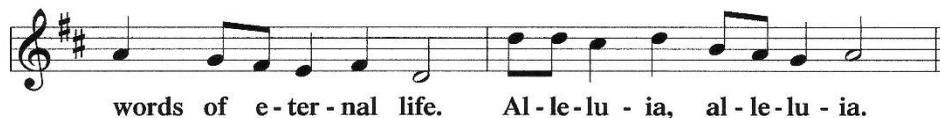
This is the Word of the Lord.

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. John the fourteenth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 14:1–14 (*Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life!*)

¹ "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to where I am going." ⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

⁸ Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." ⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

¹² "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

THE CHILDRENS MESSAGE

Mt. Calvary Puppet Ministry

THE MESSAGE:

"Knowing the Way"

Pastor David Brighton

THE HYMN OF THE DAY:

"You Are the Way: through You Alone"

Hymn #526

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 ++

Jesus' resurrection means forgiveness, new life, and salvation
for you and me and all believers! Rejoice that He is risen!

The angel to the women at the tomb'

"He is not here, for He has risen, as He said."

(Matthew 28:6)

THE 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.**

**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.**

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:

"The Church's One Foundation"

Hymn #644

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Altar Flowers were provided this week by Pat & Richard Stetzler, in honor of their 59th wedding anniversary, and by Fred & Nancy Hursey, in honor of their 40th wedding anniversary.

Summer Sunday School – Please volunteer to be a summer Sunday School teacher for our Pre-K to 5th grade students. Our regular teachers are on vacation for 2 months, and we need YOU! We have crafts, scrapbooking, Stories with Jesus, movies, and Pre-K. The dates are June 4, June 11, June 18, June 25, July 2, July 9, July 16, July 23, and July 30. If you could help for at least 2 Sundays, that would be great! Please contact Cynthia Nelson or leave a note in her DCM mailbox. Thank you for teaching our Kids for Christ!!

Mount Calvary has received memorial donations in memory of Susan Kesler from Pedro & Kathy Camejo, John & Marie White, Chet & Nancy Branscom, Don & Monelle Netzing, Bruce & Barbara Bauman, Joan Steese, Alyce Quillin & Margaret McLaughlin, Dave & Linna Nielsen, Bill & Joyce Clifton, Riley Hood and Randall & Sherry Parsons.

Senior Fellowship - Come join us for Senior Fellowship **Thursday, May 18th, 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.

Church Softball Team! We have two games this week – Tues at 7:30 pm and Thursday at 6:30 pm. Come on out and cheer on your team! All games are played at Peavy Field.

Time for a New Church Directory – If you have any changes for the directory, please let Jack know soon. The three most common omissions are 1) dropping a land line and switching to cell-only telephones, 2) adult children moving from the family home, and 3) just changing phone numbers.

Attention All Men: The Men's Breakfast for the month of May will be held on Saturday, May 20 at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. The next Men's Breakfast will be in September, the cooks are taking a summer hiatus. So, put your name on the Sign Up Sheet at the Information Desk and join us for food, fellowship and a devotion. It's a Guy Thing!

Projectionists needed - If you are interested in serving occasionally as the projectionist at one of the services, please contact Brian Harper - brian@brianandlaura.com.

Mount Calvary's Annual Golf Tournament – RESCHEDULED!

The tournament has been rescheduled for Sunday, May 21st, with lunch @ 1:00 and tee-off @ 2:00. It will be held at Waterford Country Club. The cost is \$45/golfer includes lunch, 18 holes of golf, & cart. Mulligans (3/\$5), Red Bombs (\$5), & Free Throws (\$10) will for sale at check-in. All proceeds go to help benefit the Youth Ministry Program of Mount Calvary Lutheran Church. Sign your team up at the Welcome Center today!



Voters Meeting! Our next Voters meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 11th at 12:30 pm. A light lunch will be served prior to the meeting, beginning at noon. Important topics will include a report from our Reformation 500 Committee and a report from Council as we look at staffing options with Tim Jacobsmeyer's approaching retirement next year and the possible calling of an Associate Pastor. Be informed and attend the meeting to let your voice be heard as we move forward with these important items before us.

Audio-Visual Committee – President Bill Bohm is forming an audio-visual committee to study the complete system now used in the sanctuary and surrounding areas (including the nursery, Narthex, etc.) to make recommendations for any changes and upgrades. If you have some knowledge in these areas, please consider serving on this committee. Talk to Bill if you are interested.

Plans for a father-son campout are in the works! We are currently planning on camping out at our sister church (Christ Lutheran in Perry) on Friday, June 16. All fathers with sons between ages 5 and 16 are welcome! If you're interested, please add your name to the sheet in the Narthex!

New Email Addresses for the Staff (Effective Immediately):

Office – office@mountcalvaryga.org

Pastor Brighton – Pastor_Brighton@yahoo.com

Pete LeBorious – DCEPete91@gmail.com

Vicar – Vicar@mountcalvaryga.org

Tim Jacobsmeyer – Music-Man@mountcalvaryga.org

DCM (Cynthia Nelson) – dcm@mountcalvaryga.org

Don Netzinger – bizmgr@mountcalvaryga.org

Jerry Bisping – Jerry.Bisping@mountcalvaryga.org

PRAYER CONCERNS

The family of Susan Kesler, who died May 4th.

Peggy Rodriguez, who is hospitalized and recovering from pneumonia.

Ashford Garretson, newborn son of Beth Garretson. Proud grandparents are David & Lynn Johnson and proud great-grandfather is Ralph Wenrick.

Miriam Crawford, Rob's mom, who is recovering from gall bladder surgery.

Cindy Hinkle (former member), who is recovering from surgery for breast cancer.

Marilu Cowan, who has a compression fracture of a vertebrae in her back.

Ann Nicely, Margaret McLaughlin's daughter, who is recovering from surgery.

D. J. Nelson, who is home from the hospital recovering from his surgery.

Keep In Your Prayers

Steve Hetes, Dot Bogardus, Bev Ellgass, Helen Giese, Ralph Wenrick, Frances Trichinotis (John's mother), Kathy Clark (Barb Jernigan's sister), Cynthia Trichinotis, Shirley Ermi, John Steese (Joan's son), Katilyn Yarbrough, Bev Ellgass, Pat Aldredge, 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

Jeanne Day (Bob's mom), 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:** Vicar Aaron Sterling. **ELDERS:** Gary Hadley (8 am) and Don Netzinger (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Tucker Gossman (8 am) and Colton Wurdeman (10:45 am). **USHERS:** Early – Don Parrot, Darron Counselman, Dale Hawkins & Roger Foss. Late – Paul Ferguson, Sam Culpepper, Dale Channell, Champ Aldredge & Mark Burnette. **ALTAR GUILD:** Marcia Brighton, Valerie Counselman, Denise Forehand and Nancy Hoar. **LAY READERS:** Glen Thompson (8 am) and Pat Aldredge (10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Christi Bacon. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Early – Tanner Gossman. Late – John Hunter.

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: Rob Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Darron Counselman (Sun 8 am) and Roger Moeller (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Christopher Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Abigail Halsell (Sun 8 am) and Zoe Babcock (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Lois Harter, Melinda Hopf, Ruth Miller, Suzanne O'Daniel & Maureen Young. **LAY READERS:** Keith Dierking (Sat 6 pm), Steve Soisson (Sun 8 am), and Jim Morey (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Gary & Lexie Hadley (8 am) and Paul & Dottie Brown (10:45 am).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Acts 17:16-31 and 1 Peter 3:13-22

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday 6 pm – 47 Sunday 8 am – 74 Sunday 10:45 am – 151 Total – 272

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
Wednesday	9:30 am	Craft & Chat
Thursday	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
	11:00 am	Senior Fellowship
	7 – 8 pm	Prayer Group
Friday	6 – 10 pm	High School Outreach Party
Saturday	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast
	3:00 pm	Karenni Bible Study (Annex)
	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
	6:00 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
Next Sunday	11:00 am	Karenni Worship Service (Annex)
	1:00 pm	Golf Tournament
	6:30 pm	TAG Night

VANCO
Online
Giving

