

As We Gather

Sometimes it feels as though this time in which we live is the very first time that people directly challenge God. Yet this feeling is inaccurate. We are reminded by Ezekiel that God's people were going around saying, "God is not just" already at the time of the prophets. Distrust of God has been around even longer, since Adam and Eve questioned the goodness of God. In the Gospel, chief priests and elders question the authority of Jesus. Nothing new. But Jesus doesn't react angrily. Instead, He lets His actions speak louder than words. With very few words, Jesus would go on trial, be wrongly convicted, suffer beatings, be mercilessly crucified, and be raised from the grave. In Christ, we need not fear scoffers. We don't need to respond by being testy or trying to silence anyone. We simply trust the authority of Jesus' death and resurrection and follow His way of loving our enemies and praying for those who persecute us. Rather than return evil for evil, we turn to the crucified and risen Jesus and live.

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: *"Crown Him with Many Crowns"* **Hymn #525, st. 1-3**

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

Mighty Lord of all, You are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. We come to You to confess our sins and to receive Your forgiveness through Christ Jesus.

(please kneel)

O Lord,

We confess to You that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves. We have questioned Your goodness, justice, and authority. We have at times acted out of rivalry or conceit. We have looked only to our own interests instead of the interests of others. We have grumbled and questioned. We have not been of the same mind. Our love for You and for one another has faltered. Lead us to true repentance, Lord. Forgive our sins, both what we have done and what we have left undone. Have mercy on us. Seek us, for You alone can find us and restore us. Amen.

Remember Your mercy, O Lord, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Remember not the sins of our youth or our transgressions; according to Your steadfast love remember us, for the sake of Your goodness, O Lord. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE: *"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"*

**Holy God, we praise Thy Name;
Lord of all, we bow before Thee.
All on earth Thy scepter claim,
All in heav'n above adore Thee.
Infinite Thy vast domain,
Everlasting is Thy reign.**

**Holy Father, Holy Son,
Holy Spirit, Three we name Thee;
Though in essence only one,
Undivided God we claim Thee
And, adoring, bend the knee
While we own the mystery.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same 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: Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32 (*The Lord desires all people to turn to Him and live.*)

¹ The word of the LORD came to me: ² “What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? ³ As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die.

²⁵ “Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶ When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷ Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸ Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?

³⁰ “Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING: Philippians 2:1–18 (*Every knee should bow and ever tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.*)

¹ So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

¹⁴ Do all things without grumbling or disputing, ¹⁵ that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶ holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷ Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸ Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE ALLELUIA VERSE:

G 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 twenty first chapter.

G Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23–27 (*The chief priests and elders question the authority of Jesus.*)

²³ And when he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴ Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?'" ²⁶ But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to You, O Christ.

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

Pastor Brighton

THE HYMN OF THE DAY:

"You Are the Way; Through You Alone"

Hymn #526

THE MESSAGE:

"Problem With Authority"

Vicar Brad Wellik

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 Pentecost Season is all about the growth of the Christian Church.
We use this time to study God's Word and then go out into our community
To share the love of Jesus as we call people to repentance and faith!**

"Go and make disciple of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."

Matthew 28:18-19

OFFERTORY HYMN:

"Take My Life and Let It Be"

**Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use
Every power as Thou shalt chose.**

THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

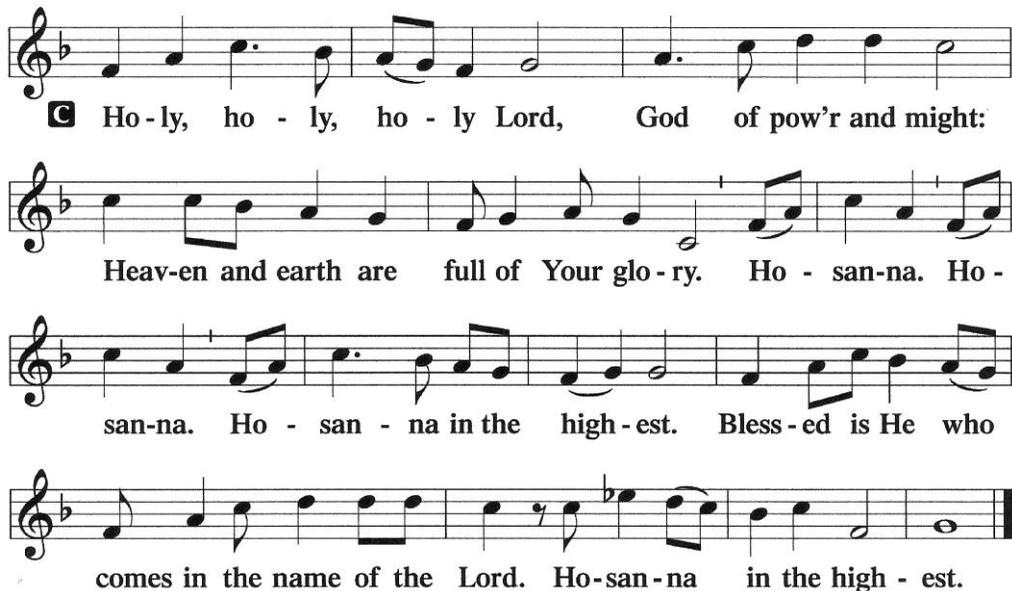
Lift up your hearts.

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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who humbled Himself, suffered, and died on the cross and is now risen and exalted at the right hand of God, so that we may turn to Him and live. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



□ 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:

<i>"Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray"</i>	Hymn #623
<i>"Beautiful Savior"</i>	Hymn #537
<i>"O Jesus, King Most Wonderful"</i>	Hymn #554

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Creator and Author of all that exists, we thank You that You have come near to us in the body and blood of Jesus. Through this Holy Communion, fill us with mercy, move us to forgive others, and help us to trust Your wisdom for our lives; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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: *"Crown Him with Many Crowns"* Hymn #525 st. 4-5

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Note from Seminarian Joshua LeBorious: I started my cross cultural module at the nearby detention center. It was incredible, turns out when you have almost nothing to do but read the Bible, you get to the point where you can cite Scripture left and right. The prison Bible study was an incredible experience, and I am greatly looking forward to the rest of my time there. On the social side of things, I continue to play club soccer and participate in intramurals. My intramural team, the Sword of the Southpaw, is undefeated thus far, and are all pretty cool guys. Additionally, our soccer team played the Catholic seminary on Friday and we beat them 5-1 (I even got some play time!) Afterwards we invited them to Prof 'n Stein, and in a debate between the two schools regarding "what was the best thing before sliced bread" the Lutherans took home another win. I also attended my first Student Association meeting this week, and it's cool to see some of the behind the scenes of student life here at the Sem.

Our Altar Flowers were provided this week by David & Linna Nielsen, in honor of their wedding anniversary (October 1), and by Bruce & Barbara Bauman, in honor of their wedding anniversary (also on October 1).

Flood Buckets. The President's Equip Conference is in Ponte Vedra, Florida (near Jacksonville) this Thursday – Saturday. Six members of Mount Calvary are attending the conference. Since the church van will be used for transportation, a total of 40 flood buckets will fit in the van to be delivered to people in need in Jacksonville following the flooding there. Each flood bucket will cost about \$25. If you would like to contribute to this effort, please make payments to Mt. Calvary and put "Flood Bucket" on the memo line.

Pastor Lee Hopf, a son of this congregation, serves at Trinity Klein Lutheran Church in Spring, TX, just north of Houston. Lee and his congregation are on high ground and were spared the flooding. Pastor Hopf said their efforts are focused on the massive clean-up that is just beginning. If you would like to give a contribution directly to Pastor Hopf and his congregation's relief efforts, please make out a check or designate through Vanco that your contribution is to go to "Hurricane Relief" and we will send one check from Mt. Calvary to help with the relief efforts in Houston through Trinity. A check from the congregation will be mailed this week.

We published a new Member Directory last month. If you didn't pick up one up, but would like to have one, please let Jack in the church office know and he'll put one in your mailbox.

Our Ushers For October: Early – Paul Keister, Fred Hursey, Steve Kirchoff & Eric Gossman. Late – Roger Moeller, John Hunter, Jim Morey, Cameron Mastenbrook.

The Linus Blanket year is coming to an end. The blankets will be blessed on LWML Weekend, October 21st & 22nd. Since there is a wedding that Saturday, the blankets will be put out late that afternoon before worship service. Please bring your blankets to the church by Thursday, October 19th. Blankets can be given to Diane Doyle or put under the Linus Project display table. Thank you everyone for making blankets and for your prayers.

Come Out and Support the Mt. Calvary Volleyball Team. Games are played at Warner Robins Recreation Department Gym, 800 Watson Blvd. This weeks games are against FRIENDS on Tuesday at 6:15 pm and Messengers on Thursday at 8:00 pm.

PRAYER CONCERNS

The Family of John Spearman, Maddie Monohan's brother-in-law, who died on September 24th.
Anita McIntyre, who is recovering from neck surgery.
Rosie Schulz, who is having hernia surgery on October 5th.
Anna Marie vonDebschitz, whose blood pressure is not stabilized.
Jeanene Crawford, who faces lung surgery.
Linda Hartman, who has lung cancer and is waiting to be moved to Ohio, near family for chemo treatments.
Crawford Hicks, who is now home, that his skin grafts would all heal.
JoAnn Leininger, who is recovering from a broken vertebrae.
Mike Longbine, who is recovering from eye surgery.

Keep In Your Prayers

Paul Brown, Lena Grube, Nancy Vormelker (Kathy Eubank's sister), Miriam Crawford, Suzanne O'Daniel, Arlene Zeuner, Pat Wolfe, Chet Branscom, Cheryl Stafford, John Harmon, Karen Harmon, Jeannie Hawkins, Carolyn Ramage, Layne Kesler (Dick's granddaughter), Marilyn Schultz, Bill Bohm, Jan Fingles (Doug's mom), Tom Guilford, John White, 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

Joe Hill (Cynthia Nelson's dad), 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 Oswald (Krystal Ferguson's father).

Those Serving our Country in Dangerous Areas

Chris Mittuch, Darrin Landis, Jonathan Fetchik and Christian Corbitt, for safety and good health as they serve our country in dangerous areas.

SERVING US TODAY

PREACHER: Vicar Brad Wellik. **LITURGIST:** Pastor David Brighton. **ELDERS:** Brian Harper (Sun 8 am) and Bob Gerstenberger (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Abigail Halsell (Sun 8 am) and Seth Nelson (Sun 10:45 am). **USHERS:** Early – Paul Keister, Fred Hursey, Steve Kirchoff & Eric Gossman. Late – Roger Moeller, John Hunter, Jim Morey, Cameron Mastenbrook. **ALTAR GUILD:** Heather Johnson, Angleen Trasmer, Barbara Locke & Pat Stetzler. **LAY READERS:** Dick Kesler (Sun 8 am) and Jeff Townsend (Sun 10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Roger Moeller. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Open (8 am) & Open (10:45 am).

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: Kenn Keyes (Sat 6 pm), Darron Counselman (Sun 8 am) and Mark Burnette (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Taitum Gossman (Sun 8 am) and Zoe Babcock (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Debbie Fingles, Susan Julson & Linna Nielsen. **LAY READERS:** John Trichinotis (Sat 6 pm), Brian Harper (Sun 8 am) and Bruce Bauman (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Pat Stetzler (8 am) and Paul & Dottie Brown (10:45 am).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Isaiah 5:1-7 and Philippians 3:4b-14

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday 6 pm – 47 Sunday 8 am – 69 Sunday 10:45 am – 155 Total – 271
Karenni Worship - 76

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Today	Day 67: DTNT (Col. 1-4) 11:00 am Karenni Worship Service (Annex) 6:30 pm TAG Night
Monday	Day 68: DTNT (1 Thess. 1-5) 6:20 pm Evangelism Callers 6:30 pm Women's Small Group
Tuesday	Day 69: DTNT (2 Thess. 1-3) 4-6:30 pm RG@MC Tutoring 6:30 pm Boards 7:30 pm Elders
Wednesday	Day 70: DTNT (1 Tim. 1-3) 9:30 am Morning Glories 5:30 pm Christian Fellowship & Education 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir
Thursday	Day 71: DTNT (1 Tim. 4-6) 10:00 am Ladies Bible Study
Friday	Day 72: DTNT (2 Tim. 1-4) 9 am-12 pm ESL Class 6 – 9 pm Middle School Party
Saturday	Day 73: DTNT (Titus 1-3) 3:00 pm Karenni Bible Study (Annex) 5:00 pm Adult Bible Study 5:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal

VANCO
Online
Giving

