

As We Gather

Today's Readings are a gracious reminder to us that, in His love for His people, God is willing to rescue and protect us; and as the almighty Lord over all, He is certainly able! The people in Isaiah's day were wondering about God's protection as they feared neighboring states, but the prophet reminds them that God is in control of all things, ready and able to help them. When Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law and many others who were suffering from both sickness and demons, He demonstrated His power to save from opponents on every level. And when Paul became "all things to all people," he was bringing them Gospel, God's ultimate rescue from sin, death, and the devil. And now, the blessings of the Gospel come to us today through Word and Sacrament from our strong and loving God.

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:***"Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good"***Hymn #819****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

We are God's people, but we often waver between strong faith in Him and fear of other forces around us. Let us confess our weakness and sin before our God.

(please kneel)

O God, You constantly bless us,

Yet we confess, heavenly Father, that we have wondered about Your care in times of distress. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us, O Lord, our God.

O God, You are greater than any foe!

Yet we confess, gracious Lord, that at times our faith has been shaky—when You have not answered our prayers immediately, and when pain, sadness, or fear have increased. In our distress, we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. Forgive us, O Lord, our God.

Our God has worked salvation for us! Through Jesus' death and resurrection, He has conquered sin, death, and the devil. He covers even our doubts and the weaknesses of our faith with Christ's own righteousness. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen!

HYMN OF PRAISE:

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

**Joyful, joyful we adore Thee,
God of Glory, Lord of Love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee,
Praising Thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
Drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness
Fill us with the light of day**

**All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.**

**Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
All who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine!**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; 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: Isaiah 40:21–31 *(The Lord reminds His people that He is willing and able to defend them.)*

²¹ Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²² It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in; ²³ who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness.

²⁴ Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows on them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵ To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. ²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name, by the greatness of his might, and because he is strong in power not one is missing.

²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹ He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. ³⁰ Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; ³¹ but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING: 1 Corinthians 9:19–27 *(Paul changes his approach to win different people.)*

¹⁹ For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. ²⁰ To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law.

²¹ To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. ²² To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some.

²³ I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

²⁴ Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. ²⁵ Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶ So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷ But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

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 ++

Epiphany="manifestation" or "revealing" and it refers to Jesus being revealed
As the Savior of the nations! In our joy, we tell others this great Good News!

"We have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people."

(1 Timothy 4:10)

OFFERTORY HYMN:

"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 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; for in Him we see not only Your almighty power to order creation, but also Your steadfast love to work our eternal salvation. 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>"Jesus Comes Today with Healing"</i>	Hymn #620
	<i>"I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus"</i>	Hymn #729
	<i>"Children of the Heavenly Father"</i>	Hymn #725

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have graciously given us strength and showered us with love in this gift for the good of our souls, and we ask You thereby to enable us to serve willingly and joyfully in Your name; 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:	<i>"Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me"</i>	Hymn #722
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A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Altar Flowers are provided this week by Mike & Marsha Longbine in honor of the 90th birthday of Marsha's mom, Doris Fraley.

Mount Calvary has received donations in memory of Chet Branscom from Betty Cummings, Pete & Nancy Mann, Casi Rainwater Fisher, Jim & Joyce Duitsman, Yolanda Brach, Bill & Jackie Bohm, Dianne & Bennett Damron, Pat & Richard Stetzler, John & Marie White, Laura & Brian Harper and Toby & Lorraine Jenson.

Mount Calvary has received donations in memory of Charles Smith, Joan's husband, from John & Marie White and Richard & Pat Stetzler.

Mount Calvary has received a donation in memory of Ann Gossman, Eric's mom, from Carl & Barbara Mabee.

Our Voters Assembly, at its January meeting, voted to form a Call Committee for an Associate Pastor. At the same time, the Call Committee for the new Director of Music is also being formed. If you would like to be considered to serve on either committee, please contact President Bill Bohm (phone: 478-397-6917 or email: bfbohm@gfb.org).

Nominations for Associate Pastor are being received through the end of February. If you know of a pastor who might fit our job description (posted in the Office Hallway), please send his name, address and phone number to the church office (email: office@mountcalvaryga.org).

Lenten Sermon Series: On the six weekends in Lent (February 17/18-March 24/25) we will enjoy a special series of sermons entitled: "Being Christian." Each weekend we will reexamine who we are in Christ – what "being" a Christian means in today's world – being a Christian in the home, at work, at church, in the community and what it means for the Christian to bear the cross. At the same time, all of our adults are invited to a Bible study that will take a more in-depth look at these same topics. Look for a letter in the mail soon!

Midweek Lenten Series: This year, beginning on Ash Wednesday (February 14), the theme for our Midweek Lenten services will be: "The Gospel in Seven Words." Each Wednesday we'll explore different ways to share our faith with those around us and do it in just a few words! Our Wednesday services are all at 7:00 pm with a meal preceding the service at 6:00 pm.

Mount Calvary's softball team is just about ready to start practicing for the Spring season! Whether you're an All-Star or just looking to be more active in the new year, we'd love to have you! If you're not sure if it's for you, come out for a practice and see how you like it. All males 15 years of age and over are welcome. Please contact Quentin Harris (478-960-6612) prior to February 15 if you're interested. Practices will begin in the next couple of weeks! A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

Last Chance to sign up for the Sweetheart Dinner, is this weekend! Next Sunday, Feb. 11, at 6:00 p.m., we will have a fabulous time at our annual dinner down in the MFH. The cost is \$7.50 per person, with free babysitting upstairs for ages 0-10. This is an evening you can dress-up, and bring your special sweetie for a home-made lasagna dinner, salad, bread, drinks, and as many chocolate desserts as you can eat! Yes, bring those desserts for the Chocolate Dessert Contest, and win a SUPER prize! Plus, games with prize baskets totaling over \$75 EACH for 3 lucky couples that are good sports! Sign up at the information desk today.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Linda Watson, who is recovering from a severe eye injury.

Shirley Ermi, who fell and broke her shoulder.

Tim Cronin, Alyce Quillin's son, who is recovering following brain surgery.

Lora Rook, Nora Croffut's sister, who is hospitalized in ICU

Dwight Miller, who has a bad heart valve.

Keep In Your Prayers

Carol Quednow, Donna Burkhardt, JoAnn Burge, David Snow (son of Ray & Doris Snow), Richard Uitto, JoAnn Smith, Susan Wallace, Libby McCarty, Paul Brown, Tracie Frey, Anita McIntyre, Bill Gragg, Mike Hopf, Patti Griswold, 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), Barry Rice (Becky McVay's brother), Norma Young (Melinda Hopf's aunt), Jeannette Poniske (Fred Tamer's mom) and Bruce Oswalt (Krystal Ferguson's father).

Those Serving our Country in Dangerous Areas

Chris Walker (Karen Johnson's son), Christopher Dierking, Darrin Landis, 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/Vicar Brad Wellik. **ELDERS:** Brian Harper (8 am) and Mark Burnette (10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Abigail Halsell (Sun 8 am) and Morgan Hagemann (Sun 10:45 am). **USHERS:** Early - Erv Robinson, Paul Keister, Fred Hursey, Steve Kirchoff & Lloyd Rauch. Late – Roger Moeller, John Hunter, Jim Morey & Cameron Mastenbrook. **ALTAR GUILD:** Cindy Branham, Amanda Huffman & Maureen Young. **LAY READERS:** Bob Yeager (8 am) and Pat Aldredge (10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Christi Bacon. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Open (8 am) & Open (10:45 am).

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: Kenn Keyes (Sat 6 pm), Darron Counselman (Sun 8 am) and Don Netzinger (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Tucker Gossman (Sun 8 am) and Sara Van Lannen (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Cindy Branham, Amanda Huffman & Maureen Young. **LAY READERS:** Sue Glaser (Sat 6 pm), Doug Fingles (Sun 8 am) and Jim Morey (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Dick & Judy Hamilton (8 am) and Bill & Arlene Zeuner (Sun 10:45 am).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Exodus 34:29-35 and 2 Corinthians 3:12-14; 4:1-6

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday - 37 Early – 85 Late - 125 Total –247

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Today	Lutheran Hour Ministries Sunday	
	7:00 am	Sub Assembly
	6 – 10 pm	High School Outreach Sunday
Monday	6:20 pm	Evangelism Callers
	6:30 pm	Women's Small Group
Tuesday	4 – 6 pm	RG@MC
	6:30 pm	Boards
	7:30 pm	Elders
Wednesday	9:30 am	Morning Glories
	5:30 pm	Christian Fellowship & Education
	7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir
Thursday	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
Saturday	9 am-4 pm	SLDT Retreat
	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
	5:00 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
Next Sunday	12 – 3 pm	8 th Grade Confirmation Workshop
	6:30 pm	TAG Night

