

**As We Gather**

What does it mean to be a Christian in today's world? Over the next six weeks we will answer this question together. In Scripture it is made clear to us that a Christian is a follower of Jesus Christ who believes that Jesus died on the cross to forgive the sins of all people. A Christian also believes that Jesus' death is for THEM, to forgive THEIR sins and that through Jesus' sacrificial death their sins are forgiven and they are heirs of heaven. Now what? How are we to live as Christians in our world – at home, in the community, even at church? Today we'll start to answer that question!

**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:**

*"Glory Be to Jesus"*

**Hymn #433**

**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.**

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.**

**THE HYMN OF PRAISE:**        ***"Chief of Sinners Though I Be"***

**Chief of sinners though I be,  
Jesus shed His blood for me,  
Died that I might live on high,  
Lives that I might never die.  
As the branch is to the vine,  
I am His and He is mine.**

**O, my Savior, help afford  
By Your Spirit and Your Word!  
When my wayward heart would stray,  
Keep me in the narrow way;  
Grace in time of need supply  
While I live and while I die.**

**THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the Promised Land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come, never wavering in the faith You have put in our hearts; 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: Genesis 22:1-18** *(Abraham shows his faith in his willingness to sacrifice his only son at God's command.)*

<sup>1</sup> After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."  
<sup>2</sup> He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."  
<sup>3</sup> So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him.  
<sup>4</sup> On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar.  
<sup>5</sup> Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you."  
<sup>6</sup> And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together.  
<sup>7</sup> And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

<sup>8</sup> Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.

<sup>9</sup> When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup> Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. <sup>11</sup> But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." <sup>12</sup> He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." <sup>13</sup> And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup> So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

<sup>15</sup> And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven <sup>16</sup> and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup> I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, <sup>18</sup> and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM:**

***"I Pray, Lord, Help Me to Follow Jesus"***

Men's Chorus

**THE EPISTLE READING: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-13** (*Faith is being sure of what is unseen.*)

<sup>1</sup> Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup> For by it the people of old received their commendation. <sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

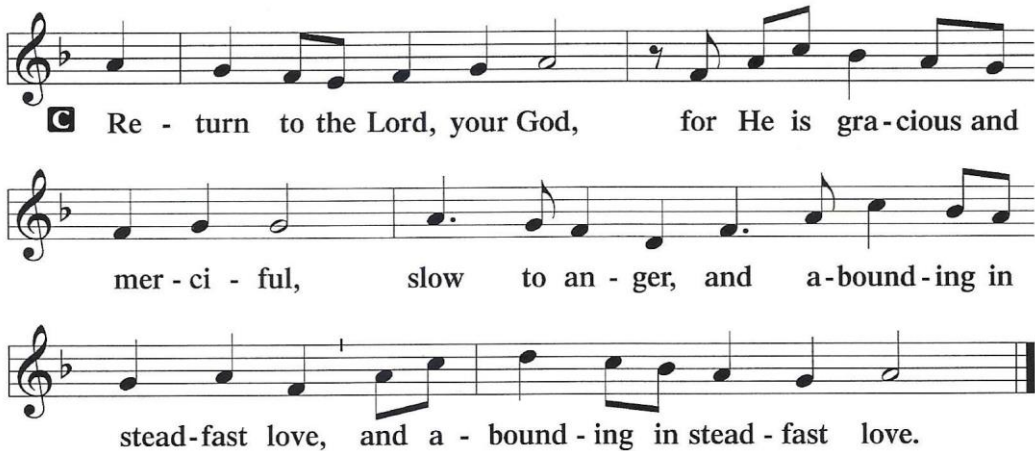
<sup>8</sup> By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup> By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup> For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. <sup>11</sup> By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup> Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.

<sup>13</sup> These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

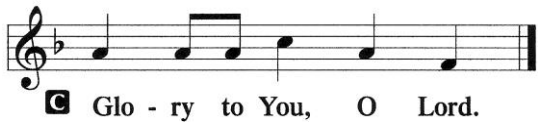
**THE VERSE FOR LENT: "Return to the Lord"**



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. Mark the first chapter.



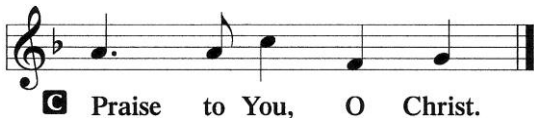
Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

**THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 1:14-20** (*Jesus calls on people to repent and believe and calls Peter and Andrew to follow Him.*)

<sup>14</sup> Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, <sup>15</sup> and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

<sup>16</sup> Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup> And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men." <sup>18</sup> And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup> And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup> And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to You, O Christ.

**THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:**

Pastor Brighton

**THE HYMN OF THE DAY:**

*"Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake"*

**Hymn #688**

**THE MESSAGE:**

**"Being Christian – Defined"**

Pastor Brighton

**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 season of Lent is a time for us to reflect on our lives and confess our sins to almighty God.

It is also a time to think about how we might more clearly reflect our faith in our God in our daily lives, so that others might be drawn to the cross and saved!

**"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."** (Rom. 10:13)

**OFFERTORY HYMN:**

***"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"***

**My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.**

**Now hear me while I pray; take all my guilt away;**

**O let me from this day be wholly Thine!**

**May Thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart; my zeal inspire!**

**As Thou hast died for me, oh, may my love to Thee**

**Pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire!**

**THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION**

## THE PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

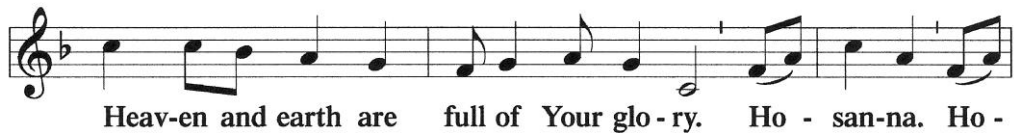
Lift up your hearts.

**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, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who endured and overcame trials and temptations for us that He might be the perfect sinless Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



## 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.)*

<b>DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:</b>	<i>"The Lamb"</i>	<b>Hymn #547</b>
	<i>"Your Table I Approach"</i>	<b>Hymn #628</b>
	<i>"O Jesus, Blessed Lord to Thee"</i>	<b>Hymn #632</b>

**THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; 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.**

<b>THE CLOSING HYMN:</b>	<i>"Thine Forever, God of Love"</i>	<b>Hymn #687</b>
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**A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER**

**THE POSTLUDE**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Our Altar Flowers are provided this week** by Carl Beahm, in honor of his wife, Charleen.

**Midweek Lenten Service** – This week our Wednesday night series, “The Penitential Psalms” continues as we look at Psalm 102. This psalm gives hope to all who are suffering affliction in life. The world is not always a friendly place, to say the least! Our God gives us hope for now and forever as we look to Him for strength in time of need! Join us at 7:00 pm for worship and don’t forget our fellowship meal at 6:00 pm!

**The Christus Chorus from Concordia University in St. Paul, MN** is touring Georgia and Florida over their Spring break and they will be at Mt. Calvary IN CONCERT at 7:15 pm on Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>! Their tour has the theme, “Saved by Grace.” Don’t miss this opportunity to hear this beautiful chorus as they “sing us into Holy Week!” Following the concert, we will need volunteers to house the Chorus members on Saturday night and take them to Christ Lutheran in Perry on Palm Sunday morning, where they will also be performing. If you would like to help house two young ladies or two young men, please sign up at the Information Desk or talk to Ruth Lange to get more details. **Please note: We will still have our regular Saturday “Praise and Worship” service at 6:00 pm to celebrate Palm Sunday.**

**Newsletter Deadline:** Please have all items for the March Newsletter in to the office by Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Mount Calvary has received a donation in memory of LaDonna Dykes,** Cindy Branham’s sister, from Jan & Steve Kirchoff.

**Evangelism Explosion Kickoff Lunch – Sunday, February 25, noon.** This lunch is for those who are interested in learning more about our evangelism training on Monday evenings. Lunch is free. There will be a video, and our evangelism callers will share their experiences in this training ministry. There is no commitment made by or expected of those attending this lunch. **We will meet after the late service in the Fellowship Hall.**

**Recognition of Evangelism Callers** - Next Weekend we will recognize those who have completed our Monday Night Evangelism training at all services.

**Warner Robins Food Bank** - The following items are needed by our local food bank for the month of February. Please help support this project by donating the following items on the various weekends:

- Feb (17, 18) – Hand Soap, Sanitizer, Body Soap, Jelly, Condiments (mustard, mayo, ketchup)
- Feb (25, 26) – Detergent, Bleach, Pasta, Rice
- Mar (3, 4) – Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Dental Floss, Canned “Kids” meals, Cookies, Cakes



## PRAYER CONCERNS

**The family of Hunton Morgan**, Jane Faga's father, who died on February 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Cynthia Trichinotis**, who will be having heart surgery on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Arnie Reule**, who is recovering from the flu.

**Nancy Hoar**, who is recovering from the flu.

**Collin Mabee**, who is recovering from the flu.

**Barbara Wallace**, who is hospitalized.

**Carol Quednow**, who has moved to the Zebulon Park Health and Rehabilitation Center in Macon.

**Carter Langford**, who was hospitalized last week.

**Bill Quednow**, who was hospitalized with the flu.

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

**Dwight Miller**, who will have surgery for a bad heart valve on March 29<sup>th</sup>.

### Keep In Your Prayers

Linda Watson, Shirley Ermi, Tim Cronin (Alyce Quillin's son), Carol Quednow, Donna Burkhardt, JoAnn Burge, David Snow (son of Ray & Doris Snow), JoAnn Smith, Susan Wallace, 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 Roger Moeller (10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Carlee Toler (8 am) and Zoe Babcock (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:** Tian Foss, Barb Mabee, Ginger Martin & Kathy Robinson. **LAY READERS:** Kathy Robinson (8 am) and Jeff Townsend (10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Christi Bacon. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Open (8 am) & Open (10:45 am).

### SERVING US NEXT WEEK

**ELDERS:** Eric Gossman (Wed 7 pm), Tony McVay (Sat 6 pm), Erv Robinson (Sun 8 am) and Mark Burnette (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Sara Van Lannen (Wed 7 pm), Tucker Gossman (Sun 8 am) and Morgan Hagemann (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Heather Johnson, Barbara Locke, Pat Stetzler & Angleen Trasmer. **LAY READERS:** Bruce Bauman (Wed 7 pm), Debi Cole (Sat 6 pm), Carrie Wurdeman (Sun 8 am) and Barbara Bauman (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Paul & Mollie Keister (8 am) and Jim & Barb Morey (Sun 10:45 am).

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 and Romans 5:1-11

### ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

**Saturday - 51 Early - 83 Late - 137 Total - 271**  
**Ash Wednesday - 153**

### THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Today	6:30 pm	SLDT Meeting
Monday	6:20 pm	Evangelism Callers
	6:30 pm	Women's Small Group
Wednesday	6:00 pm	Dinner
	7:00 pm	Worship
	7:45 pm	Choir after Worship
Thursday	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
Saturday	10 am-2 pm	High School Yard Work for the Elderly
	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
	5:00 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
Next Sunday	12:00 pm	EE Kickoff Luncheon
	6:30 pm	TAG Night