

As We Gather

"Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love."

Continuing our Lenten series theme of being Christian, our focus today is on being a Christian in the church. Why do we gather here as a family of God? What makes this time important for our walk in faith? The above line from our hymn of the day sums up our relationships here at church. They are tied in two important words: Christian love.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

OPENING HYMN:

"I Love Your Kingdom, Lord"

Hymn #651

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.

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, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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: Exodus 35:1-5a, 20-21

¹ Moses assembled all the congregation of the people of Israel and said to them, "These are the things that the LORD has commanded you to do. ² Six days work shall be done, but on the seventh day you shall have a Sabbath of solemn rest, holy to the LORD. Whoever does any work on it shall be put to death. ³ You shall kindle no fire in all your dwelling places on the Sabbath day." ⁴ Moses said to all the congregation of the people of Israel, "This is the thing that the LORD has commanded. ⁵ Take from among you a contribution to the LORD.

²⁰ Then all the congregation of the people of Israel departed from the presence of Moses. ²¹ And they came, everyone whose heart stirred him, and everyone whose spirit moved him, and brought the LORD's contribution to be used for the tent of meeting, and for all its service, and for the holy garments.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE ANTHEM (10:45 am):

"We Are Brothers and Sisters in Christ"

Sanctuary Choir

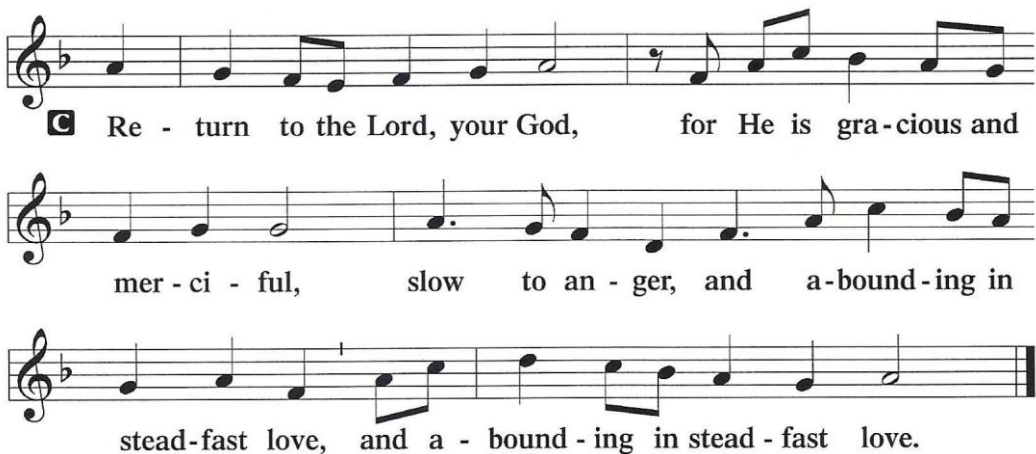
THE EPISTLE READING: Ephesians 4:11-16

¹¹ And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴ so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵ Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

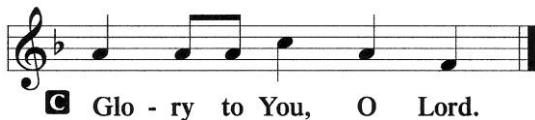
THE VERSE FOR LENT: "Return to the Lord"



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. John the seventeenth chapter.



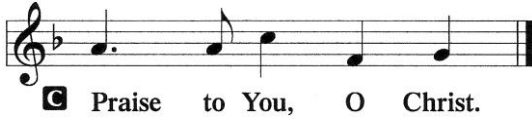
Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 17:20-26

²⁰ "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

²⁴ Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



THE CHILDRENS MESSAGE

Pete LeBorious
Director of Christian Education

HYMN OF THE DAY:

"Blest Be the Tie that Binds"

Hymn #649

THE MESSAGE

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

VOLUNTARY (8:00 am):

"We Are Brothers and Sisters in Christ"

Sanctuary Choir

++ 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)



An easy way to make your weekly contribution to Mount Calvary is to use the QR Code on the left to access the Vanco online giving option.

THE OFFERTORY:

"Lord Of All Good"

**Lord of all good, our gifts we bring You now.
Use them Your holy purpose to fulfill.
Tokens of love and pledges they shall be
That our whole lives is offered to Your will.**

**Father, whose bounty all creation shows;
Christ, by whose willing sacrifice we live;
Spirit, from whom all life in fullness flows:
To You with grateful hearts ourselves we give.**

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:

"Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed"

Hymn #437

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Midweek Lenten Service – This week our Wednesday night series, "The Penitential Psalms" continues as we consider Psalm 32. Because of our sinfulness our lives can get all turned around. We often try to cover up our sins, but sooner or later the impenitent person is brought to repentance and confession of sins – and that penitent sinner receives a great blessing from God! Join us at 7:00 pm for worship and don't forget our fellowship meal at 6:00 pm!

Our Altar Flowers are provided this week by Barbara Mabee, in honor of her own birthday and her son Scott's birthday; and by Sallie Brinkley, in loving memory of her husband John.

Mount Calvary has received a donation in memory of LaDonna Dykes, Cindy Branham's sister, from Vivian Stillely.

Spring Work Day – On Saturday, March 17th we will have our Spring Work Day, immediately after the 8 AM Men's Breakfast. Please join the Trustees as they plan to work from approximately 9 AM to Noon. We plan to spruce up the church grounds (small trees, bushes, litter, walkways, parking areas) as well as clean and paint a few of the exterior doors. Bring your gloves and clipping tools if you would like to help with any cutting or pruning areas that may need attention. We will be concentrating on getting the church property looking good for Palm Sunday and Easter. All are encouraged to come out and help beautify our church property. Contact John Hunter at 335-3426 for more information.

Community Survey: The Outreach Board is sponsoring a community survey on Sunday, March 18, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. But the Outreach Board has only five members. We need you, the congregation to help. Consider this quote from Dr. Howard Hendricks, former Chairman of the Department of Education of the Dallas Theological Seminary: "I can't find a verse of Scripture that commands a lost person to go to church; I know a lot of Scripture that commands believers to go into a lost world." The purpose of the survey is: 1) let people know we care about them and 2) inform them of our Easter Worship Services. The survey is easy to do. First, we ask if they have a church home. If not, we ask three more questions, record their answers, and give them a flyer with information about our Easter and regular worship services. It takes less than five minutes at each home. There is a short training session before the visits. Teams of at least two people make the visits. There is a sign-up sheet and a copy of the survey form in the narthex on the information counter. If you have any questions, talk to Bruce Bauman.

American Red Cross Blood Drive: Mount Calvary Lutheran Church is sponsoring a blood drive on Thursday, March 15, from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm. in the fellowship hall downstairs. Minimum requirements to donate are age 17, 110 pounds, and good health. There are two ways to schedule an appointment: use the sign-up sheet on the information counter at church or go to the Red Cross website, "redcrossblood.org" (enter zip code 31088 and find MCLC). Donating a pint of blood can save up to 3 lives. If you have any questions, contact Bruce Bauman or the Red Cross at 1-800-RED CROSS or redcrossblood.org.

Daytime Callers share Christ's love and concern with shut-ins and others who need to know that we at Mt. Calvary care for them. We meet this **Monday, March 12th, in the church conference room at 11:00 am.**

Senior Fellowship - Come join us for Senior Fellowship Thursday, March 15th, 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.

Many thanks especially for your prayers and also for your cards and phone calls. My back surgery was successful and now I can sit without any pain. - John Lange

Ladies Guild meets Monday, March 12th at 10:00 am. All ladies are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Mount Calvary has received a donation in memory of Chet Branscom from George & Nancy Kissner.

Prayer Group - This coming Thursday, March 15th, 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm, our prayer group will meet in the cry room. Anyone is welcome to join us as we pray for our church, our community, and our own concerns.

Did You Know: Type A blood donations are needed because 85% of the population can receive Type A *platelets*. *Platelets* are needed to support patients undergoing cancer treatments. Type AB is the universal *plasma* which is essential for many kinds of patients, including burn victims. O-positive blood can be given to 84% of the population. O-negative blood is the universal red blood cell which can be given to any patient. It is commonly used for premature infants and for trauma patients in emergency situations.

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 24th! 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!" **Please note: We will still have our regular Saturday "Praise and Worship" service at 6:00 pm to celebrate Palm Sunday.**

Warner Robins Food Bank - The following items are needed by our local food bank in the coming weeks. Please help support this project by donating the following items on the various weekends:

- Mar (10,11) - Baby wipes, feminine products and canned fruit
- Mar (17,18) - Combs, Brushes, canned soups and crackers
- Mar (24,25) - Detergents, Bleach, Dryer sheets, Taco mix and taco shells
- Mar 31 – Apr 1 - Napkins, Paper towels, gravy packets, Puddings, and Jello

PRAYER CONCERNS

Margaret McLaughlin, who is at The Lodge undergoing rehabilitation for a fractured pelvis.

Deloris Denzine, who is now under hospice care.

John Lange, who is recovering from back surgery.

Cynthia Trichinotis, who is recovering from heart surgery.

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

Dwight Miller, who will have surgery for a bad heart valve on March 29th.

Keep In Your Prayers

Barbara Wallace, Linda Watson, Shirley Ermi, Tim Cronin (Alyce Quillin's son), JoAnn Burge, David Snow (son of Ray & Doris Snow), Susan Wallace 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

Donna Burkhardt, 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.



A new creation

Just as spring brings beauty and renewal,
in Christ we, too, are made new.

Directions: Follow each flying butterfly to its correct number. Then write that word on the line with the corresponding number to read 2 Corinthians 5:17.

10 old the anyone has 11
 8
 12 new has in 9
 5
 13 The Christ new the 16
 3 gone is creation 17
 2 if come 14
 15 4

“Therefore, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____,
 _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____,
 _____, _____, _____, _____ is here!”

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17, NIV

Answer: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV

SERVING US TODAY

PREACHER: Vicar Brad Wellik. **LITURGIST:** Vicar Brad Wellik. **ELDERS:** Darron Counselman (8 am) and Don Netzinger (10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Carlee Toler (8 am) and Abigail Halsell (10:45 am). **USHERS:** Early – Dick Kesler, Eric Gossman, Doug Fingles, Doug Branham & Dick Hamilton. Late – Bob Day, Don Netzinger, Adam Beecher, Dave Miller, Larry Ellgass & Steve Hetes. **ALTAR GUILD:** Debbie Fingles & Linna Nielsen. **LAY READERS:** Brian Harper (8 am) and Dave Harter (10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Debi Cole. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Open (8 am) & Open (10:45 am).

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: Don Netzinger (Wed 7 pm), Tony McVay (Sat 6 pm), Glen Thompson (Sun 8 am) and Jeff Townsend (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Sara Van Lannen (Wed 7 pm), Logan Currenton (Sat 6 pm), Zoe Babcock (Sun 8 am) and Seth Nelson (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Debbie Fingles & Linna Nielsen. **LAY READERS:** Ruthie Radcliff (Wed 7 pm), Becky McVay (Sat 6 pm), Richard Losert (Sun 8 am) and Dave Radcliff (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Barbara Locke (8 am) and John & Marie White (10:45 am).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Micah 6:6-8 and James 1:19-27

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday - 63 Early – 75 Late - 147 Total –285
Wednesday Night Lent Worship - 98

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Today	6:30 pm	SLDT Meeting
Monday	11:00 am	Daytime Callers
	6:20 pm	Evangelism Callers
	6:30 pm	Women's Small Group
Tuesday	4–6:30 pm	RG& MC Tutoring
	7:00 pm	Council
	Wednesday	6:00 pm
7:00 pm		Worship
7:45 pm		Choir after Worship
Thursday	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
	11:00 am	Senior Fellowship
	1 – 8 pm	Red Cross Blood Drive
	7:00 pm	Prayer Group
Friday	4:30 pm	HS Sprint Retreat (thru Sunday 2 pm)
Saturday	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast
	9:00 am	Work Day
	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
	5:00 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
Next Sunday	2:00 pm	Community Survey
	6:30 pm	TAG Night