

# Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church

*Sharing God's love with those around us and our lives with one another.*

*Preparing for today, tomorrow and eternity.*

*Caring for each other, our community, and the world.*



April 29, 2018

Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church and Preschool  
2055 S. Franklin St. Rd.  
Decatur, Illinois 62521

[office@mtcalvarydecatur.org](mailto:office@mtcalvarydecatur.org)

[www.mtcalvarydecatur.org](http://www.mtcalvarydecatur.org)

Member of Lutheran School Association

THE MISSION OF MT CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH IS TO:

“HELP THOSE WHO DO NOT KNOW JESUS TO KNOW HIM;  
AND TO HELP THOSE WHO DO KNOW HIM TO KNOW HIM BETTER.”

Worship: 9:00 am

Adult Bible Class: 10:30am

Sunday School: 10:30am

Brett Hinrichs, Pastor

*Office Phone: 428-0641 Cell Phone: 847-553-8296*

*Pastor Email: [pastor@mtcalvarydecatour.org](mailto:pastor@mtcalvarydecatour.org)*

*Welcome...* to all who worship here this morning, especially our guests. What a blessing it is to come together in God's house to hear His Word and return to Him our thanksgiving and praise. We are happy to have you worshipping with us.

*Guests...* if you are looking for a church home, we'd love to have you as a member. If you would like to know what we believe or are interested in joining our congregation, please mark the appropriate box on the Fellowship Register as it is passed to you by an Usher. God wants every Christian to belong to a local community of believers where he or she can be fed and nourished with God's Word and Sacraments. Please consider God's will carefully as you think about your life with God.

*Aids Are Available For The Hearing Impaired...* Please speak with an Usher if you would like to use an aid during the service.

*Anyone...* who needs, or knows someone who needs, spiritual help, guidance, or comfort, please feel free to contact our Pastor.

*For Those Attending the Lord's Supper...* if you are not a member of Mt. Calvary or a sister congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, speak to Pastor Hinrichs or an Elder before approaching the altar to commune. If you are communing today and need to avoid alcohol, the innermost ring of the individual cups is alcohol free wine. If you are gluten sensitive, please ask an elder for gluten free wafers.

*Live Streaming...* we are live streaming our services. If you and your family do not wish to be on camera, we suggest that you refrain from sitting in the first two rows of pews. And for Children's Sermon, we suggest using the side aisles to go up to the front of the sanctuary and have the children sit at the sides of the group.

# Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018

## AS WE GATHER

Being connected. That is what today's worship is all about. In Christ, who is the True Vine, we are connected to God and to each other. As Christians, because God has loved us in Christ, we "*abide in Him, and He in us,*" and so we "*love one another.*" This love is seen as Philip brings "*the good news about Jesus*" to the Ethiopian eunuch. As a result, the eunuch is baptized and so becomes connected to Christ. Through this same gift, we know that we "*are already clean*" because of the Word Christ has spoken to us. Living in this baptismal grace, we are constantly fed by the Vine and so produce the fruit of love in our lives.

## † PREPARATION †

### RINGING OF THE BELLS

### WELCOME

**OPENING HYMN #131 .....“Now All The Vault of Heaven Resounds”**

## OPENING VERSICLES

P: This is the day which the Lord has made;

**C: let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

P: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**C: the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

P: Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;

**C: I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.**

P: Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.

**C: Teach me Your paths.**

P: Sanctify us in Your truth.

**C: Your Word is truth.**

P: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**C: the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and to call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

## **OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE**

*Refrain:               The Lord God is my strength and my song,  
                                  and He has become my salvation.*

**With joy will you draw water from the wells of salvation.**

**And you will say in that day:**

**“Give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name,  
make known His deeds among the peoples,  
proclaim that His name is exalted.”**

*Refrain*

**Sing praises to the Lord, for He has done gloriously;  
let this be made known in all the earth.**

**Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitants of Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

*Refrain*

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*Refrain*

**FIRST READING ..... Acts 8:26-40**

*pg. 777 in Blue Bible, pg. 1705 in the Red Bible*

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING ..... 1 John 4:1-11**

*pg. 863 in Blue Bible, pg. 1902 in the Red Bible*

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL ..... John 15:1-8**

*pg. 764 in Blue Bible, pg. 1676 in the Red Bible*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**RESPONSORY**

P: Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

**C: Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

P: Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

**C: Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**C: Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

**CONFESSION OF FAITH ..... Apostles' Creed**

**C: 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.

## LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### HYMN OF THE DAY ..... "Fruitful Trees the Spirit Sowing"



1 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's sow - ing, May we rip - en  
 2 Lad - en branch - es free - ly bear - ing Gifts the Giv - er  
 3 Root - ed deep in Christ our Mas - ter, Christ our pat - tern  
 4 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's tend - ing, May we grow till



and in - crease, Fruit to life e - ter - nal grow - ing,  
 loves to bless; Here is fruit that grows by shar - ing,  
 and our goal, Teach us, as the years fly fast - er,  
 har - vests cease; Till we taste, in life un - end - ing,



Rich in love and joy and peace.  
 Pa - tience, kind - ness, gen - tle - ness.  
 Good - ness, faith, and self - con - trol.  
 Heav - en's love and joy and peace.

# SERMON

## OFFERING

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, for those in the military, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For those who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries, including... let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For ... *[additional prayers may be inserted]* ... let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

## **PRAYER FOR THE WORD**

P: Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER**

**C: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

## **NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE**

**Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed.  
Raised from the dead, He will never die again.  
Death has no more dominion over Him.**

**Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Dying, Christ dies to sin, once for all.  
Living, He lives to God.  
Count yourselves as dead to sin and alive to God  
in Christ Jesus, our Lord.**

**Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.**

## **BLESSING**

**P:** Let us bless the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**P:** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

**C: Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN: #217 ..... “On What Has Now Been Sown”**

## **Acknowledgments**

Service of Prayer and Preaching from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright

© 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

## We Believe and Teach That...

- The Bible is the Word of God.
- The Ten Commandments are a revelation of God's will for our lives.
- Since we cannot keep the Ten Commandments perfectly we cannot save ourselves.
- God provided our salvation for us by sending Jesus Christ, His only Son, to die for our sins.
- Jesus proved His effectiveness by rising from the dead on the third day.
- The only way to heaven is to trust that God has saved us through Jesus' work and his all sufficient death for us.
- God expects His people to gather for worship and service in the local congregation.

## Our Ministries Include...

- SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 9:00 A.M.
- ADULT BIBLE STUDY AT 10:30 A.M.
- CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 10:30 A.M.
- MEN'S MONDAY BIBLE STUDY AT 6:30 P.M.
- WOMEN'S TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY AT 9:00 A.M.
- MT. CALVARY CHRISTIAN PRE-SCHOOL

A Christ centered learning program for 3 and 4 year old children

- LUTHERAN SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

A quality Christ centered day school; grades K-8

A quality Christ centered High School

## We Invite You To...

1. RELAX. At Mt. Calvary you can rest assured that you will never be put on the spot, never singled out or embarrassed.
2. BRING THE KIDS. For your pre-school children we provide a supervised nursery that runs simultaneously with our services. There is also a diaper changing station available in the nursery for your convenience.
3. ENJOY FELLOWSHIP WITH US. Join us after worship for refreshments in the Fellowship Hall. Stop by, pick up a cup of coffee or tea, and enjoy some fellowship before the 10:30 AM Bible Study begins.

### Our Staff

#### Office Manager

- Kim Copeland

#### Music

- Jean Graham
- Dorothy Damery

#### Sunday School

- Ashley Atchason
- Dorothy Damery
- Dan Reynolds

#### Preschool

- Cathy Kurecki
- Mary Pressley

#### LSA

- Dorothy Damery
- Matthew Gruenwald

### Our Officers

#### President

- Scott Busboom

#### Vice-President

- Doug Gerhardt

#### Secretary

- Tayler Anderson

#### Treasurer

- Rodger Koester

#### Financial Secretary

- Mary Lou Collingwood

#### Head Elder

- Mike Atteberry

#### LSA Representative

- Joel Fletcher

#### Property Comm. Chair

- Roger Harting

#### NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Phone (217) 428-0641

Email: [office@mtcalvarydecatour.org](mailto:office@mtcalvarydecatour.org)

Website: [www.mtcalvarydecatour.org](http://www.mtcalvarydecatour.org)

*MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH*

*"Sharing God's Love with those around us  
and our lives with one another."*

