

# *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.*



December 12, 2018

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

[mtcalv@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtcalv@sbcglobal.net)  
[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.

# Midweek Advent Worship

December 12, 2018 7:00 PM

## AS WE GATHER

As we begin a new Church year, God's people enter into the season of Advent, which is a time of waiting, hope and anticipation for the coming of Christ. We not only wait for the joyous celebration of Christ's first coming at Christmas, but also for His coming on the last day. But this waiting is not a quiet, motionless waiting. It is a busy, active, waiting, as we live in the light of God's Grace shown at His first coming. Tonight, as we continue our Advent Series, "It's About Time," we wrestle with how we, as time-bound people, understand and relate with a timeless God. We'll see how God is not slow in keeping His promises, but is instead perfectly patient so that everyone may come to repentance. -2 Peter 3:9

## PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

### WELCOME

**OPENING HYMN: #343 ..... "Prepare the Royal Highway"**

*Please Stand*

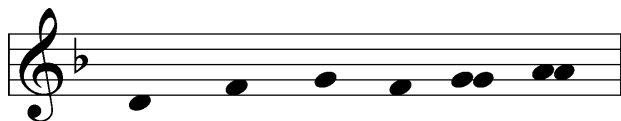
## OPENING RESPONSES

P: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,  
C: **the light no darkness can overcome.**

P: Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,  
C: **and the day is almost over.**

P: Let Your light scatter the darkness  
C: **and illumine Your Church.**

**THE SONG OF JOYOUS LIGHT ..... "Phos Hilaron"**



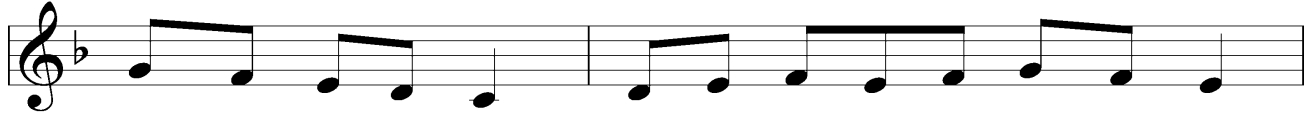
**L** Joy - ous light of glo - ry:



**C** of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,



bless - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the



set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.

We sing to God, the Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Spir-it:  
 You are wor-thy of be-ing praised with pure voic-es for -  
 ev - er. O Son of God, O Giv - er of life:  
 the u - ni - verse pro - claims Your glo - ry.

P: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*Please be seated*

**PSALM OF PRAISE** ..... *Psalm 141*

Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,  
 the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.  
 O Lord, I call to You; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice  
 when I cry to You. Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,  
 the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



Set a watch be-fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.



Let not my heart in-cline to an - y e - vil thing;



let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil - do - ers.



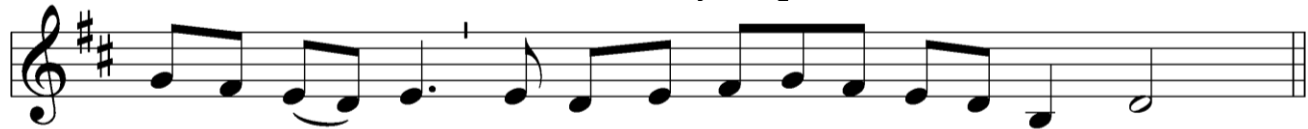
But my eyes are turned to You, O God; in You I take ref - uge.



Strip me not of my life. Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and



to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it; as it was in



the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

## PRAYER OF THE LIGHT

**P:** Let us pray.

**C:** Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever. Amen.

**FIRST READING** ..... 2 Peter 3:3-15

*Please stand*

**GOSPEL READING** ..... John 3:5-17

P: In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

**C: But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.**

*Please be seated*

**HYMN OF THE DAY: #337** ..... "The Night Will Soon Be Ending"

**HOMILY**

**SERMON RESPONSE:** ..... "The Magnificat"

*Refrain*

My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -  
 joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag-ni-fies the  
 Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*The congregation responds to each prayer, saying, "Lord, have mercy."*

*The prayers then continue...*

P: For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

**C: Alleluia.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

*Silence for personal prayer may follow.*

P: Rejoicing in the fellowship of the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:

**C: To You, O Lord.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:

**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.**

## **BENEDICAMUS**

P: Let us bless the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **BENEDICTION**

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

**C: Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN: #886 ..... "The Day Thou Gavest"**

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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## 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 Staff

#### Office Manager

- Kim Copeland

#### Music

- Jean Graham
- Dorothy Damery

#### Sunday School

- Ashley Atchason
- Dorothy Damery
- Dan Reynolds

#### Preschool

- Cathy Kurecki
- Mary Pressley

#### LSA

- Matthew Gruenwald

### Our Officers

#### President

- Doug Gerhardt

#### Vice-President

- Alan Dull

#### Secretary

- Tayler Anderson

#### Treasurer

- Rodger Koester

#### Financial Secretary

- Marsha Warnick

#### Head Elder

- Joel Fletcher

#### LSA Representative

- 

#### Property Comm. Chair

- Roger Harting

#### NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Phone (217) 428-0641

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

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

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and our lives with one another."*