

# 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.*



March 31, 2019

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

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

# Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019

## AS WE GATHER

“It’s all a matter of perspective,” Tim said. “If you look at it in different way, you may be able to understand it better.” Chances are you’ve heard advice like this at some point in your life. Although we don’t often realize it, God also uses different perspectives to talk about His work in our lives. Terms like justification, redemption, salvation are all meant to give us a different images for the things God does in our lives. Today’s readings all focus on an image that doesn’t get a lot of attention: the image of reconciliation. Whether it is through Isaiah’s song of praise, Paul’s description of Christ, or Jesus’ parable about the waiting Father, God shows that He is a personal God who wants to live in a unified relationship with His people. This is all made possible through Jesus, who has “reconciled the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them.”

## † PREPARATION †

## RINGING OF THE BELLS

## WELCOME

**OPENING HYMN: #915 ..... “Today Your Mercy Calls Us”**

## INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Brothers and sisters in Christ! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him to grant us forgiveness in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: **who made heaven and earth.**

*Psalm 124:8*

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Psalm 32:5*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

P: O Almighty God, merciful Father,

**C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

## ABSOLUTION

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## INTROIT

P: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

**C: according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.**

P: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,

**C: and cleanse me from my sin!**

P: For I know my transgressions,

**C: and my sin is ever before me.**

P: Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight,

**C: so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.**

P: Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,

**C: and in sin did my mother conceive me.**

P: Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,

**C: and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.**

Psalm 51:2-6

## GLORIA

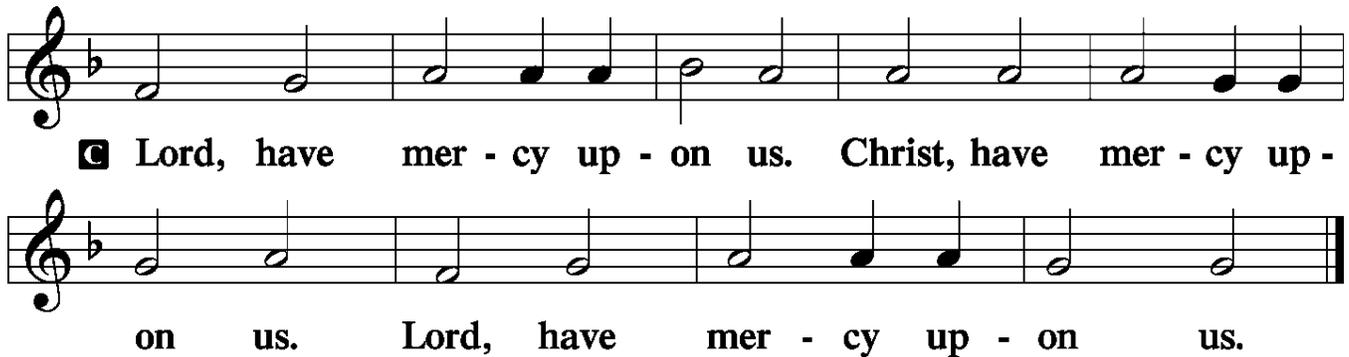


**Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;**



**as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.**

## KYRIE



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray together.

C: **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.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING ..... Isaiah 12

*pg. 492 in Blue Bible, pg. 1078 in the Red Bible*

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE READING ..... 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

*pg. 819 in Blue Bible, pg. 1799 in the Red Bible*

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## HOLY GOSPEL ..... Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

*pg. 740 in Blue Bible, pg. 1623 in the Red Bible*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth 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.**

**CONFESSION OF FAITH ..... Nicene Creed**

*Printed on the inside back cover of the hymnal*

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: #571 ..... "God Loved the World..."**

**SERMON**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY ..... "Create In Me A Clean Heart"**



**C** Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*(after each portion of the prayers)*

P: Lord, in your mercy,  
**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Into your hand, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +**

### **THE PREFACE**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

P: Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Grant that we may faithfully eat and drink the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. So hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us.

### **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.**

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **PROCLAMATION OF PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

## AGNUS DEI

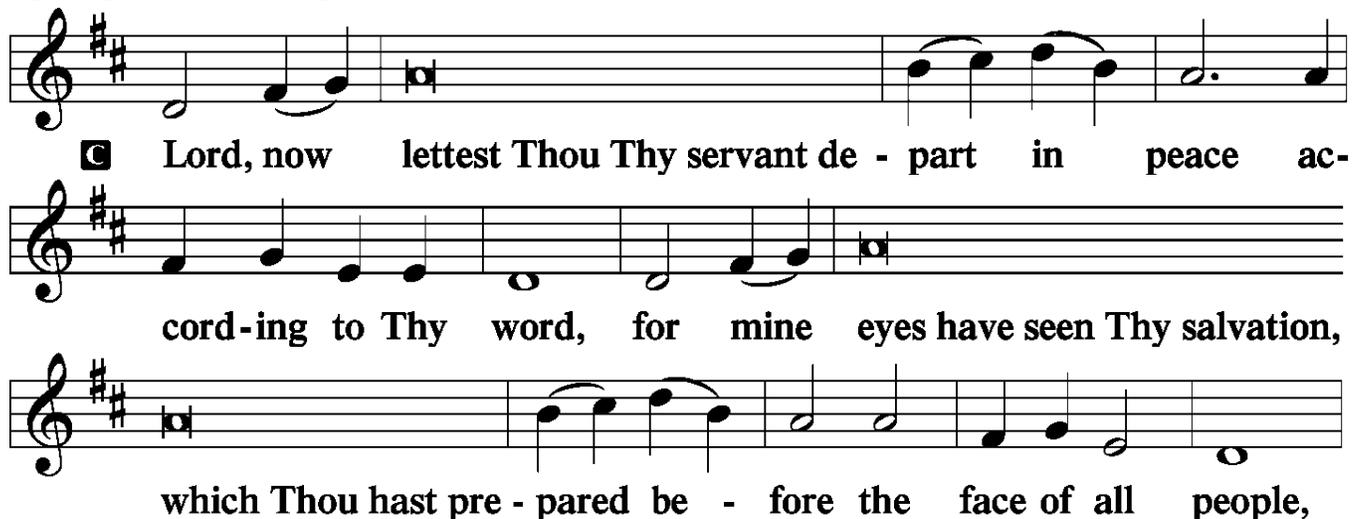


**C** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

## HOLY COMMUNION

- HYMN #420.....“Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared (v.1,3,5,7)”
- HYMN #543..... “What Wondrous Love Is This”
- HYMN #686..... “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”
- HYMN #745..... “In God, My Faithful God”
- HYMN #423..... “Jesus, Refuge of the Weary”

## NUNC DIMITTIS



**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
 peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
 to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
 is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

## THANKSGIVING

P: O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,  
 C: and His mercy endures forever.

## POST COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
 C: Amen.

## BENEDICAMUS

P: Bless we the Lord.  
 C: Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION

P: 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.  
 C: Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN: #922 ..... "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"**

# Back to the Basics: The Creed

*Historically, the season of Lent is a time when new Christians were instructed in the basics of the Christian faith as they prepared to be welcomed into the Church by Baptism on Easter Sunday morning. Since these new members were to be received into a living community, the entire congregation was also called to go “back to the basics” with those were new to the faith. Although the intensity of these traditions have changed over time, it is still a good practice for all Christians to take time to reflect upon the core teachings of our shared faith. During the season of Lent, we will print this “Back to Basics” section every other week, with a brief excerpt from the Luther’s Small Catechism to guide you in this reflection.*

## **The Second Article of the Creed**

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 shall come to judge the living and the dead.

### **What does this mean?**

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

This is most certainly true.

## 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

- 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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