

# 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.*



November 24, 2021

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

Christian Education Hour (Kids & Adults): 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 speak to the Pastor or an elder. 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.

# Thanksgiving Eve Praise

November 24, 2021 6:30 PM

## AS WE GATHER

Thanksgiving is a special season when we take time to acknowledge the countless blessings we have received from our gracious God. And yet, if we are honest with ourselves, all too often we take our many blessings for granted. And yet, God, in His unconditional love, continues bless us. Tonight, we are pointed once again to the generous nature of our Lord and all He has done for us, so that our soul may bless His Name and not forget all the Lord's benefits to us.

## PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

### WELCOME

#### OPENING HYMN: #892 ..... "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"



1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; Raise the song of har - vest home.  
2 All the world is God's own field, Fruit un - to His praise to yield;  
3 For the Lord, our God, shall come And shall take His har - vest home,  
4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come To Thy fi - nal har - vest home;



All be safe - ly gath - ered in Ere the win - ter storms be - gin;  
Wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, Un - to joy or sor - row grown.  
From His field shall in that day All of - fens - es purge a - way,  
Gath - er Thou Thy peo - ple in, Free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide For our wants to be sup - plied.  
First the blade and then the ear, Then the full corn shall ap - pear.  
Give His an - gels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast,  
There, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, In Thy gar - ner to a - bide:



Come to God's own tem - ple, come; Raise the song of har - vest home.  
Lord of har - vest, grant that we Whole - some grain and pure may be.  
But the fruit - ful ears to store In His gar - ner ev - er - more.  
Come with all Thine an - gels, come, Raise the glo - rious har - vest home.

## INVOCATION

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

**C: Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: As we stand in the presence of our Almighty God, we are aware of His great blessings in our lives. Yet, all too often, we take these blessings for granted and fail to live our whole life in thankfulness to God. As we begin our service, let us confess our sins to our Heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Heavenly Father, we confess to You that we are indeed by nature, sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You and against our neighbor, by unkind words we have spoken and by selfish actions we have done. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins and create in us clean hearts, O God, that we may know the fullness of Your love and reflect that love in thankful living.**

P: Take heart, O people of God! Rejoice for Christ has died in Your place and forgives you all your sin! As a called and ordained servant of God, 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!**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray together.

**C: Lord of time and God of history, we ask You to keep our nation and its leaders under Your care. It is by Your grace and blessing alone that we can know peace and freedom. Direct and lead us to live justly with our neighbors, peaceably in our communities, and joyfully in our land, seeking the common good. This we ask through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON ..... Deuteronomy 8:1-10

*Moses calls on the people to praise the Lord with thanksgiving.*

*Be careful to follow every command I am giving you today, so that you may live and increase and may enter and possess the land the LORD promised on oath to your ancestors. <sup>2</sup> Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to*

know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands.  
<sup>3</sup> He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. <sup>4</sup> Your clothes did not wear out and your feet did not swell during these forty years. <sup>5</sup> Know then in your heart that as a man disciplines his son, so the LORD your God disciplines you.

<sup>6</sup> Observe the commands of the LORD your God, walking in obedience to him and revering him. <sup>7</sup> For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land—a land with brooks, streams, and deep springs gushing out into the valleys and hills; <sup>8</sup> a land with wheat and barley, vines and fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey; <sup>9</sup> a land where bread will not be scarce and you will lack nothing; a land where the rocks are iron and you can dig copper out of the hills. <sup>10</sup> When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** ..... “Sing to the Lord of Harvest”  
Mt. Calvary Vocal Choir

**EPISTLE LESSON** .....Philippians 4:6-20  
St. Paul urges that all sorts of thanksgivings be given to God.

<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup> Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. <sup>9</sup> Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

<sup>10</sup> I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. <sup>11</sup> I am

*not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. <sup>12</sup> I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. <sup>13</sup> I can do all this through him who gives me strength.*

*<sup>14</sup> Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. <sup>15</sup> Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; <sup>16</sup> for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need. <sup>17</sup> Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account. <sup>18</sup> I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. <sup>19</sup> And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.*

*<sup>20</sup> To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.*

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** ..... Luke 17:11-19

*Jesus is thanked by the Samaritan leper for the healing he received.*

*<sup>11</sup> Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. <sup>12</sup> As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance <sup>13</sup> and called out in a loud voice, “Jesus, Master, have pity on us!” <sup>14</sup> When he saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed. <sup>15</sup> One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. <sup>16</sup> He threw himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan.*

*<sup>17</sup> Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? <sup>18</sup> Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?” <sup>19</sup> Then he said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.”*

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**SERMON HYMN: #894 ..... "For the Fruits of His Creation"**



1 For the fruits of His cre - a - tion, Thanks be to God.  
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.  
3 For the har-vests of the Spir - it, Thanks be to God.



For His gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, Thanks be to God. For the  
In the help we give our neigh-bor, God's will is done. In our  
For the good we all in - her - it, Thanks be to God. For the



plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, Si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,  
world - wide task of car - ing For the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,  
won - ders that as - tound us, For the truths that still con - found us,



Fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, Thanks be to God.  
In the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.  
Most of all, that love has found us, Thanks be to God.

Text: © 1970 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001190 Tune: Public domain

**HOMILY**

**CONFESSION OF FAITH .....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.**

## OFFERTORY HYMN: #785 ..... "We Praise You, O God"(v.1)

1 We praise You, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;  
In grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.  
We lay it be - fore You, we kneel and a - dore You;  
We bless Your ho - ly name, glad prais - es we sing.

Tune and text: Public domain

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: With thankful hearts, Lord, we bring You our prayers and our praises. We rejoice and remember the incredible kindness You have shown to Your people through all ages. We thank You for Your provision, Your protection, and Your peace. We praise You for the progression of the seasons and thank You for the rich harvest from the fields of our Land. Bountiful Lord,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: We pray for the world, where thankfulness is sometimes in short supply and a spirit of sharing is often lacking. Grant us all things needful for our lives, O God, and direct our deeds that we may be good stewards of Your gifts. Gracious Lord,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: At this time of thanksgiving, we pray for the Church, which is our spiritual home. Give its leaders and all the people thankfulness and a willingness to speak of Your gracious love to everyone. Caring Lord,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Also, we pray for ourselves, that we would be truly thankful people not only at thanksgiving, but in all times throughout the year. Precious Lord,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: On this day of joy and thanksgiving, we pray for those with special needs, whose earthly journeys are challenging or difficult. We especially pray for

the sick, the shut-in, and also those whom we name in our hearts that are in need of prayer. Blessed Lord,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

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

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 good and right to do so.**

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, because You abundantly provide for all our needs of body and soul. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You, praying,

## **THE 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 CHRIST**

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

## **DISTRIBUTION**

**HYMN #637 ..... "Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"**

**HYMN #722 ..... "Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me"**

**HYMN #806 ..... "Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart"**

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Lord of harvest, we thank You for the blessings You grant to the earth in each season. We rejoice in the wonderful richness of the land and in the astounding variety of food it produces to delight and satisfy us. We ask for one thing more, the willingness to share our blessings, so that all the earth can rejoice in Your generosity. This we ask in the name of Jesus.

C: Amen.

## BENEDICTION

P: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit bless and keep you always.

C: Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN: #895..... "Now Thank We All Our God"



1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voic - es,  
2 Oh, may this boun-teous God Through all our life be near us,  
△ 3 All praise and thanks to God The Fa - ther now be giv - en,



Who won-drous things has done, In whom His world re - joic - es;  
With ev - er joy - ful hearts And bless - ed peace to cheer us  
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in high - est heav - en,



Who from our moth - ers' arms Has blest us on our way  
And keep us in His grace And guide us when per - plexed  
The one e - ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore;



With count-less gifts of love And still is ours to - day.  
And free us from all ills In this world and the next!  
For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

## 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.
- CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR AT 10:30 A.M.  
Join us from children's Sunday school classes and various adult Bible Studies
- MEN'S MONDAY BIBLE STUDY AT 6:30 P.M. (Meets in the Narthex)
- WOMEN'S TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY AT 9:00 A.M. (Meets in the Conference Room)
- 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> THURSDAY GROUP BIBLE STUDY AT 6:30 P.M. (Meets in the Narthex)
- 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 Staff

- Tessa Drake
- Kim Copeland

#### A/V Tech

- Joel Fletcher
- Kelsie Gerhardt

#### Music

- Krista Hinrichs
- Peter Miller

#### Sunday School

- Kelsie Gerhardt
- Dan Reynolds
- Gale Krueger

#### Preschool

- Cathy Kurecki
- Jessica Stock

### Our Officers

#### President

- Alan Sleeth

#### Vice-President

- Alan Dull

#### Secretary

- Brenda Roland

#### Treasurer

- Rodger Koester

#### Fin. Secretary

- Marsha Warnick

#### Head Elder

- Doug Gerhardt

#### LSA Board Rep

- Sarah Barnes

#### LSA Found. Rep

- Ashley Robinson

#### 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."*