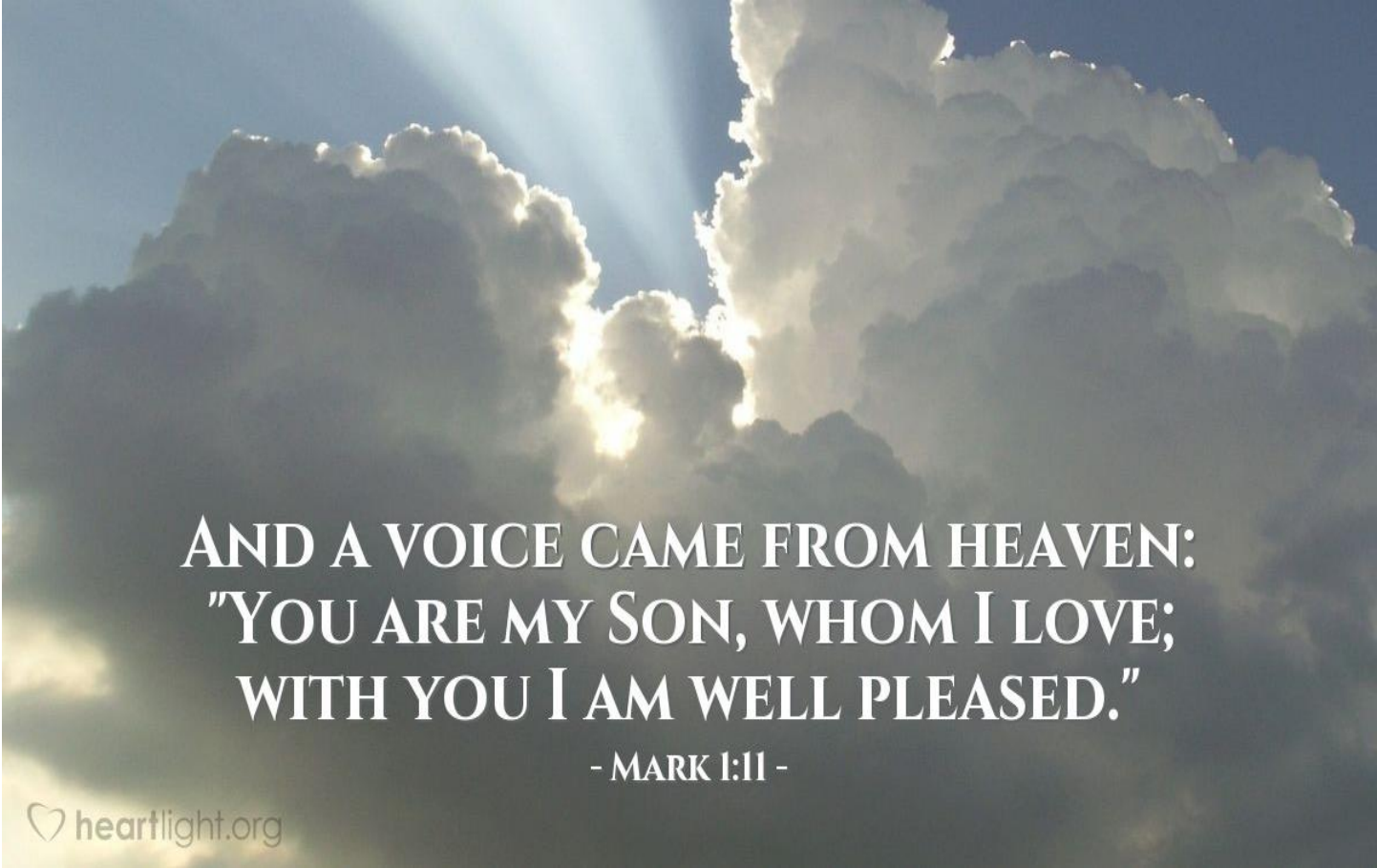


Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church

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.



**AND A VOICE CAME FROM HEAVEN:
"YOU ARE MY SON, WHOM I LOVE;
WITH YOU I AM WELL PLEASED."**

- MARK 1:11 -

♥ heartlight.org

January 7, 2024

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

office@mtcalvarydecatur.org
www.mtcalvarydecatur.org

Member of Lutheran School Association

WELCOME TO MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL!

Sunday Worship: 9:00 am

Christian Education Hour (Kids & Adults): 10:30am

Midweek Bible Studies: See Bulletin Insert

Brett Hinrichs, Pastor Ethan Hart, Vicar

Pastor Email: pastor@mtcalvarydecatour.org

Vicar Email: vicar@mtcalvarydecatour.org

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

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.

Connect Card Booklet... We encourage all who attend our services to record your name in our "Connect Card" booklets. You'll find them at the edges of each row or have them passed to you by a neighbor. The information you share helps us better serve you in your faith.

Guests... if you are looking for a church home, we'd love to have you become a member of Mt. Calvary! If you would like to know what we believe or are interested in joining our congregation, please mark the appropriate box on the Connect Card which should be passed to you at the beginning of the service. God wants every Christian to belong to a local community of believers where they can be fed and nourished with God's Word and Sacraments.

Families with children... In addition to activity bags for younger children, we have a nursery and a cry room conveniently located close to the Sanctuary if you should need to leave the service with your child. There is a TV and the Service can be heard over the speaker system. You can find a changing table with supplies there or in the restrooms.

Offerings... In thankfulness for what God has given us, we give a portion of our time, talents, and treasure back to God. Please see the laminated card in the hymnal rack in the pews for more information about how to give.

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... In the Lord's Supper God gives the incredible gift of forgiveness through His body and blood that is in, with, and under the bread and wine. Knowing that not everyone shares this belief, if you are not a member of Mt. Calvary or a sister congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, we encourage you to speak to our pastor before communing. If you need to avoid alcohol, the white wine is alcohol free. For those who are gluten sensitive, please inform the pastor or elder, so they can offer you your own gluten-free wafer.

The Baptism of our Lord

Divine Service, Setting 1, page 151

PREPARATION & WELCOME

Before we begin our service, please take a moment to fill out the "Connect Card" Booklet in your pew. We use this information to get to know our guests and best serve all God's people in their faith. If you are the last in your row to complete a "Connect Card", please leave the booklet there for an usher to collect at end of the worship service.

OPENING HYMN: #394 "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"



1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to Thee we raise,
2 Man - i - fest at Jor-dan's stream, Proph-et, Priest, and King su-preme;
3 Man - i - fest in mak-ing whole Pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;
4 Sun and moon shall dark-ened be, Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;
5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Pres - ent in Thy ho - ly Word—



Man - i - fest-ed by the star To the sa - ges from a - far,
And at Ca - na wed - ding guest In Thy God-head man - i - fest;
Man - i - fest in val - iant fight, Quell-ing all the dev - il's might;
Christ will then like light - ning shine, All will see His glo - rious sign;
Grace to im - i - tate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;



Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
Man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, Chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
Man - i - fest in gra - cious will, Ev - er bring-ing good from ill;
All will then the trum - pet hear, All will see the Judge ap - pear;
That we might be - come like Thee At Thy great e - piph - a - ny



An - thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
An - thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
An - thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
Thou by all wilt be con-fessed, God in man made man - i - fest.
And may praise Thee, ev - er blest, God in man made man - i - fest.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–85, alt./Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93/Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION

V: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sin, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

1 John 1:8-9

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

V: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess 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.**

DECLARATION OF GRACE

V: 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.

C: Amen.

INTROIT

Ps 2:7-11, 12c; antiphon: Is 42:1a

V: Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights.

C: **I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you.**

V: Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.

C: **You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."**

V: Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.

C: Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

V: 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.

C: Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights.

KYRIE

V: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: ♪Lord, have mercy.

V: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C: ♪Lord, have mercy.

V: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C: ♪Lord, have mercy.

V: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C: ♪Lord, have mercy.

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

C: ♪Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

V: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

V: Let us pray together.

C: Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READINGGenesis 1:1-5

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING.....Romans 6:1-11

Pg. 1754 in the Red Bible

C: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE

[illegible]

HOLY GOSPEL Mark 1:4-11

Pg. 1551 in the Red Bible

V: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C: ♪Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read)

V: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C:♪Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY#407 “To Jordan Came the Christ...”

sts. 1, 3–4, 7

1 To Jor - dan came the Christ, our Lord, To do His Fa - ther's
3 These truths on Jor - dan's banks were shown By might - y word and
4 There stood the Son of God in love, His grace to us ex -
7 All that the mor - tal eye be - holds Is wa - ter as we

plea - sure; Bap - tized by John, the Fa - ther's Word
won - der. The Fa - ther's voice from heav'n came down,
tend - ing; The Ho - ly Spir - it like a dove
pour it. Be - fore the eye of faith un - folds



Was giv - en us to trea - sure. This heav'n - ly wash - ing
Which we do well to pon - der: "This man is My be -
Up - on the scene de - scend - ing; The tri - une God as -
The pow'r of Je - sus' mer - it. For here it sees the



now shall be A cleans - ing from trans - gres - sion
lov - ed Son, In whom My heart has plea - sure.
sur - ing us, With prom - is - es com - pel - ling,
crim - son flood To all our ills bring heal - ing;



And by His blood and ag - o - ny Re - lease from death's op -
Him you must hear, and Him a - lone, And trust in full - est
That in our Bap - tism He will thus A - mong us find a
The won - ders of His pre - cious blood The love of God re -



pres - sion. A new life now a - waits us.
mea - sure The word that He has spo - ken."
dwell - ing To com - fort and sus - tain us.
veal - ing, As - sur - ing His own par - don.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Elizabeth Quitmeyer, 1911–88, alt.

Tune: David Lee, 1956

Text: © 1976 Elizabeth Quitmeyer. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001190

Tune: © 2004 David Lee. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001190

SERMON

CONFESSION OF FAITHApostles' 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

After each prayer, the congregation responds as the pastor directs

OFFERTORY



C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru-sa-lem.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

V: Let us pray together.

C: Lord Jesus Christ, the author and perfecter of our faith, we thank You that You continue to preach Your Gospel among us. Send Your blessing upon the Word You have spoken to us, and by Your Holy Spirit increase our saving knowledge of You. Give us strength to

fight the good fight of faith and to overcome all the temptations of sin, death, and the devil so that we may finally receive the salvation of our souls; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

V: Trusting in all of Your 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.

BENEDICTION

V: 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 #605....."Father Welcomes"

Refrain



Fa - ther wel-comes all His chil - dren To His fam - 'ly



through His Son. Fa - ther giv - ing His sal - va - tion,



Life for - ev - er has been won.



| | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------|-------------|
| 1 Lit - tle | chil - dren, | come to Me, | For My | king - dom |
| 2 In the | wa - ter, | in the Word, | In His | prom - ise, |
| 3 Let us | dai - ly | die to sin; | Let us | dai - ly |



| | | | | |
|----------------|------------------|-------------|-----------|------------|
| is of these. | Life and | love I | have to | give, |
| be as - sured: | Those who are | bap - tized | and | be - lieve |
| rise with Him, | Walk in the love | of Christ | our Lord, | |



| | | | |
|-------------|-------|------|-------|
| Mer - cy | for | your | sin. |
| Shall be | born | a - | gain. |
| Live in the | peace | of | God. |

Refrain

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 for children's Sunday school classes and various adult Bible Studies
- MEN'S MONDAY BIBLE STUDY AT 6:30 P.M. (Meets in the Conference Room)
- WOMEN'S TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY AT 9:00 A.M. (Meets in the Conference Room)
- 1st & 3rd THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY AT 6:00 P.M. (Meets in the Conference Room)
- MT. CALVARY CHRISTIAN PRE-SCHOOL
A Christ centered learning program for 3 and 4 year old children
- LUTHERAN SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
A quality Christian Elementary & Jr. High school (Pre-K Bridge Class; Grades K-8)
A quality Christian High School

We Invite You To...

1. RELAX! At Mt. Calvary you always be yourself and know that you will be welcomed and cared for as a person who is created and loved by God.
2. BRING THE KIDS. For Kindergarten through 4th Grade students, we offer a "Children's Church" time during the sermon, where students learn an age-appropriate Bible story. For your preschool 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

- Shannon Lanier

A/V Tech(s)

- Joel Fletcher
- Jim Stevens

Music

- Steve Ford

Sunday School

- Gale Krueger
- Dan Reynolds
- Kelsie Gerhardt

Preschool

- Cathy Kurecki
- Jessica Stock

Our Officers

President

- Tom Little

Vice-President

- Alan Little

Secretary

- Brenda Roland

Treasurer

- Rodger Koester

Fin. Secretary

- Marsha Warnick

Head Elder

- Alan Dull

LSA Board Rep

- Joel Fletcher

LSA Found. Rep

- Bonnie Seeforth

Property Comm. Chair

- Roger Harting

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Phone (217) 428-0641

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Website: www.mtcalvarydeatur.org

MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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