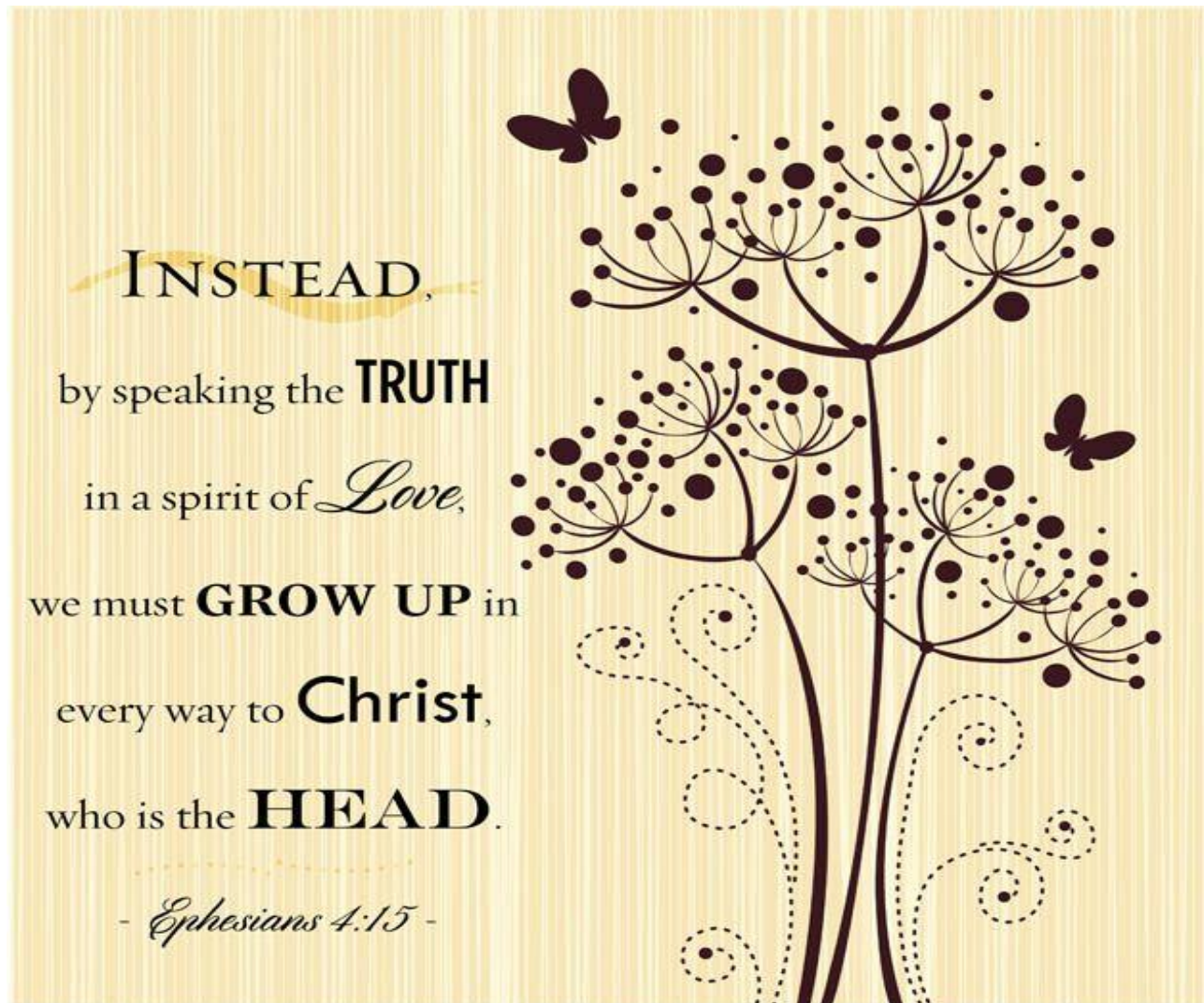


Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church

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.



January 21, 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 Third Sunday in Epiphany

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: #596 “All Christians Who Have Been Baptized”

sts. 1, 4–6



1 All Chris-tians who have been bap-tized, Who know the God of
4 In Bap-tism we now put on Christ— Our shame is ful-ly
5 O Chris-tian, firm-ly hold this gift And give God thanks for-
6 So use it well! You are made new— In Christ a new cre-



heav-en, And in whose dai-ly life is prized The name of
cov-ered With all that He once sac-ri-ficed And free-ly
ev-er! It gives the pow-er to up-lift In all that
a-tion! As faith-ful Chris-tians, live and do With-in your



Christ once giv-en: Con-sid-er now what God has done, The
for us suf-fered. For here the flood of His own blood Now
you en-deav-or. When noth-ing else re-vives your soul, Your
own vo-ca-tion, Un-til that day when you pos-sess His



gifts He gives to ev-'ry-one Bap-tized in-to Christ Je-sus!
makes us ho-ly, right, and good Be-fore our heav'n-ly Fa-ther.
Bap-tism stands and makes you whole And then in death com-pletes you.
glo-rious robe of righ-teous-ness Be-stowed on you for-ev-er!

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. Jon D. Vieker, 1961//Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg
Text: © 2004 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001190//Tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION

P: 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.

P: 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.

ABSOLUTION

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.

KYRIE

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: ♪Lord, have mercy.

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

C: ♪Lord, have mercy.

P: 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.

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

C: ♪Lord, have mercy.

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

C: ♪Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE..... "This is the Feast"

Refrain



C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray together.

C: Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us;

through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING Zechariah 3

Pg. 1474 in the Red Bible

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING Ephesians 4:17-5:2

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

Pg. 1821 in the Red Bible

C: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL John 3:1-8

Pg. 1649 in the Red Bible

V: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

C: ♪Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read)

V: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: ♪Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY#693 "O Holy Spirit, Grant us Grace"

1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, grant us grace That we our Lord and Sav - ior
2 Help us that we Thy sav - ing Word In faith - ful hearts may trea - sure;
3 And when our earth - ly race is run, Death's bit - ter hour im - pend - ing,



In faith and fer - vent love em-brace And tru - ly serve Him ev - er.
Let e'er that Bread of Life af - ford New grace in rich - est mea-sure.
Then may Thy work in us be - gun Con - tin - ue till life's end - ing,



The hour of death can - not bring loss When we are shel - tered
O make us die to ev - 'ry sin, Each day cre - ate new
Un - til we glad - ly may com-mend Our souls in - to our



by the cross That can - celed our trans - gres - sions.
life with - in, That fruits of faith may flour - ish.
Sav - ior's hand, The crown of life ob - tain - ing.

Text: Bartholomäus Ringwaldt, 1532–99; tr. Oluf H. Smeby, 1851–1929, alt./Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1535, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

CONFESSION OF FAITH Nicene Creed

C:I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I

acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✠ of the world to come. 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



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.

+ 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, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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.

P: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

PROCLAMATION OF PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

AGNUS DEI

C: ♪ Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

HOLY COMMUNION

HYMN #537.....“Beautiful Savior”
HYMN #686..... “Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing”
HYMN#618 “I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table”
HYMN #411.....“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray together.

C: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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 #643.....“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”



1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con - fess-ing,
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing To God ev - er - liv - ing,
The peo - ple of God from His dwell - ing take leave.
The tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face.

The Sup - per is end - ed. O now be ex - tend - ed
Our faith ev - er shar - ing, In love ev - er car - ing,

The fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
Em - brac - ing His chil - dren of each tribe and race.

The seed of His teach - ing, Re - cep - tive souls reach - ing,
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;

Shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
U - nite us as one in this life that we share.

His grace did in - vite us, His love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing With praise and thanks - giv - ing

To work for God's king - dom and an - swer His call.
Give hon - or to Christ and His name that we bear.

Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916-97, alt./Tune: Welsh
Text: © 1964 World Library Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001190//Tune: Public domain

Sermon Notes:

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

- Peter Miller

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

Unity Board Rep

- Joel Fletcher

Unity Found. Rep

- Bonnie Seeforth

Property Comm. Chair

- Roger Harting

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Phone (217) 428-0641

Email: office@mtcalvarydecatour.org

Website: www.mtcalvarydecatour.org

MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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