

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.



May 24, 2020

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

WE WORSHIP AND STUDY GOD'S WORD TOGETHER:

—Sunday Morning Worship: 9:00 am (FACEBOOK LIVE & ON 100.9FM)—

—Wednesday Evening Worship: 6:30pm (FACEBOOK LIVE)—

—Desire Holy Communion while we are not able to meet in person?—

Please call the Church Office to make an appointment with Pastor. Stay tuned as we explore other options to deliver God's gifts to you.

Brett Hinrichs, Pastor

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

Pastor Email: pastor@mtcalvarydecatur.org

Welcome... to all who worship with us today, especially our guests. What a blessing it is to come together 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 contact the Church Office at by phone at 217.428.0641 or you can email our pastor at pastor@mtcalvarydecatur.org.

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.

Anyone... who needs, or knows someone who needs, spiritual help, guidance, or comfort, please feel free to contact our Pastor.

Live Streaming... we are live streaming all of our services. If you miss us when we go live, an archived copy of the services can be found on our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/mtcalvarydecatur.

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

May 24th, 2020

AS WE GATHER

This past Thursday, many Churches throughout the world celebrated a Church festival known as the Ascension of our Lord. Although it is generally lesser known, recalling Christ's ascension into heaven provides us a wonderful opportunity to reflect upon the power and glory of God. He who was crucified, died, and risen, now takes His humanity with Him to sit at God's right hand in power and majesty! As Christ ascends to heaven, He leaves His disciples, past and present, a promise: the promise of the Holy Spirit, who will keep us in the faith until Christ's return in glory on the last day! Today we rejoice as Christ's work of bringing His salvation continues!

PREPARATION & WELCOME

OPENING HYMN #493 "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing"



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New
3 To them the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why
5 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord, And
hymns through - out the world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia,
stand and gaze up - on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia,
be our fu - ture great re - ward. Al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -
al - le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav - ior," thus they
al - le - lu - ia! Then, throned with You for - ev - er,
trod, say; we As - cends un - to the throne of
"This is His glo - rious tri - umph
Shall praise Your name e - ter - nal -
God, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
day!" Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
ly. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

C: But if we confess our sins, 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.

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

C: Most merciful God, we confess that 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.

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.

INTROIT

P: God has ascended amid shouts of joy,

C: the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets.

P: The LORD says to my lord: "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet."

C: The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind: "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek."

P: The Lord is at your right hand;

C: he will crush kings on the day of his wrath. 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.

P: God has ascended amid shouts of joy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING..... Acts 1:1-11

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Ephesians 1:15-23

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE

C: ♪ Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th 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 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.

SERMON

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, who taught 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.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

C: Lord Jesus Christ, author and perfecter of our faith, we thank and praise You for continuing among us the preaching of Your Gospel through which we receive both forgiveness for our many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. Send Your blessing upon the Word, which has been spoken to us, and by Your Holy Spirit increase our saving knowledge of You and give us strength to fight the good fight of faith until we inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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: #492 “On Christ’s Ascension I Now Build”



1 On Christ's as - cen - sion I now build The hope of my as -
2 Since Christ re - turned to claim His throne, Great gifts for me ob -
3 O grant, dear Lord, this grace to me, Re - call - ing Your as -



cen - sion; This hope a - lone has al - ways stilled All doubt and
tain - ing, My heart will rest in Him a - lone, No oth - er
cen - sion, That I may serve You faith - ful - ly In thanks for



ap - pre - hen - sion; For where the Head is, there as well I
rest re - main - ing; For where my trea - sure went be - fore, There
my re - demp - tion; And then, when all my days will cease, Let



know His mem - bers are to dwell When Christ will come and call them.
all my thoughts will ev - er soar To still their deep - est yearn - ing.
me de - part in joy and peace In an - swer to my plead - ing.

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

Office Assistant

▪ Tessa Drake

Music

▪ Dorothy Damery
▪ Lisa Peterman

Sunday School

▪ Ashley Atchason
▪ Dorothy Damery
▪ Dan Reynolds

Preschool

▪ Cathy Kurecki
▪ Mary Pressley

Our Officers

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▪ Scott Busboom

Vice-President

▪ Alan Dull

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▪ Rodger Koester

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Head Elder

▪ Joel Fletcher

LSA Foundation Rep

▪ Sarah Barnes

Property Comm. Chair

▪ Roger Harting

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

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MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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and our lives with one another."*