



**MOUNT CALVARY
LUTHERAN**

*Lutheran Church –
Missouri Synod*

MountCalvaryGA.org

336 Carl Vinson Pkwy
Warner Robins, GA 31088
478-922-1418

E-mail
office@mountcalvaryga.org

WORSHIP

Saturday
Praise & Worship
6:00 p.m.

Sunday
8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL
Classes for all ages
9:30 a.m.

Andrew Howe
Senior Pastor

Pete LeBorius
Associate Pastor

Jamie Dick
Music Director

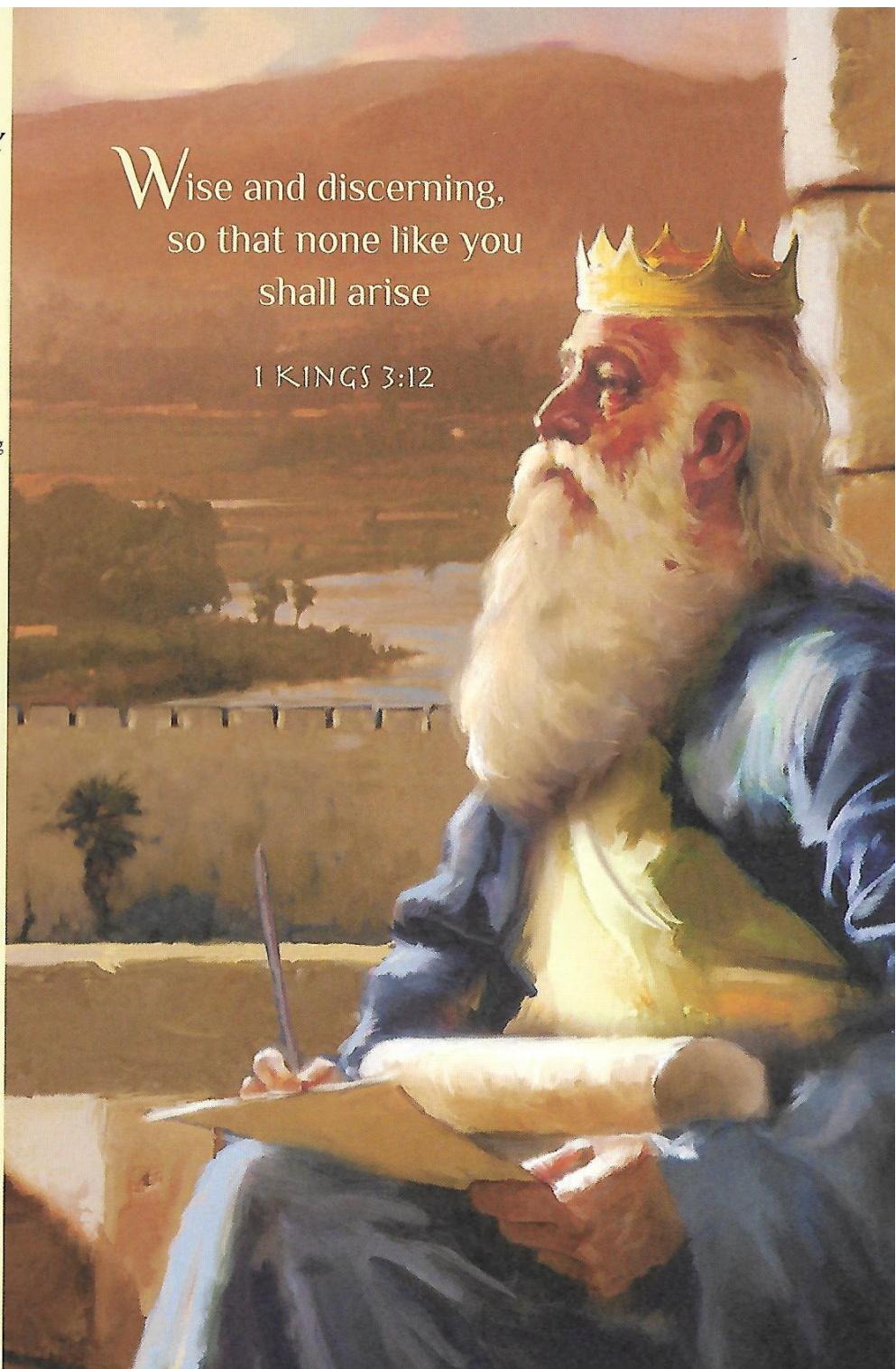
Katie Simmons
Director of
Contemporary Worship

Zachary Boeyink
Vicar

Jerry Bisping
Director of Christian
Outreach, Emeritus

**Wise and discerning,
so that none like you
shall arise**

1 KINGS 3:12



As We Gather

This week we enter the season of Epiphany. The day of Epiphany, January 6, is the day set aside by the Church to celebrate the visit of the Wise Men to the Christ Child. It is sometimes called, "The Gentile Christmas." In fact, in many parts of the world, January 6 (the day after the Twelve Days of Christmas) is the day on which the birth of our Lord is celebrated and gifts are exchanged. The word "epiphany" means "revelation" or "manifestation", and we are reminded that Epiphany is the season of light, when we celebrate the revealing, the manifestation of Jesus as the true Light of the world and the world's Savior.

Holy Communion

Holy Communion is being celebrated today. It is the belief of the Lutheran Church, based on Jesus' own words, that in this Sacrament His body and blood are really present and that forgiveness of sins and the assurance of salvation are offered to all who come confessing their sins and believing in Him. Communion is therefore offered to those who share this confession of faith. Children who are not yet confirmed are invited to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing. Guests who may have questions about Communion at Mt. Calvary are encouraged to talk to Pastor Andrew or Pastor Pete.

PRELUDE**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING**

OPENING HYMN: *"Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light"* **Hymn #378**

THE INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

In Christ is life, the life which is the light of the world.

The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Whoever follows Him will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

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

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

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

(Please kneel)

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.

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.

Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE:

"Hail to The Lord's Anointed"

Hymn #398

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Please be seated.)

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

(The coming Messiah will shed light on those living in the darkness of sin.)

¹ Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ² For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. ³ And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. ⁴ Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip. ⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING: Ephesians 3:1-12 *(The long hidden mystery is revealed in Christ.)*

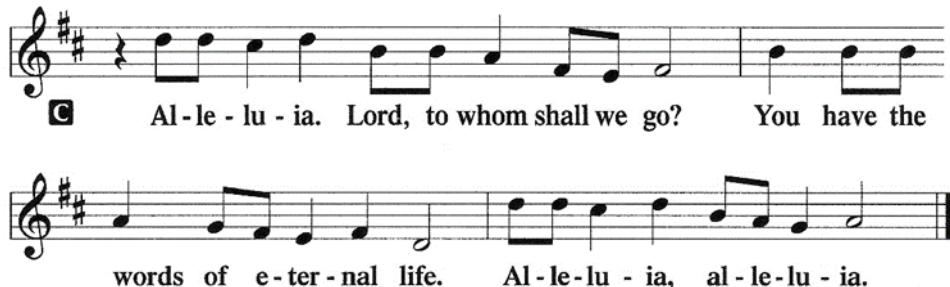
¹ For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— ² assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³ how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. ⁴ When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵ which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit.

⁶ This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷ Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. ⁸ To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹ and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, ¹⁰ so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

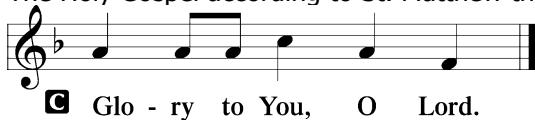
THE ALLELUIA VERSE:



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.

THE HOLY GOSPEL IS ANNOUNCED:

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the second chapter.



Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12 (*The Magi are led by the star to Bethlehem to worship Jesus, who was born for all.*)

¹ Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." ³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: ⁶ "And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."

⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him."

⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

THE NICENE CREED:

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 worshipped 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.

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

Pastor Pete LeBorious

THE HYMN OF THE DAY: "Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning" Hymn #397

THE MESSAGE:

Pastor Pete LeBorious

TIME OF RESPONSE: *Welcome to worship, we are so glad you are here! You are encouraged to fill out an Attendance Card (There is a side for both our guests and members to fill out, and If you will be coming forward for Holy Communion, please read and sign the "Announcement for Communion" portion of the Attendance Card.), place it in the offering plates, which are located at each entrance of the Sanctuary. If you have an offering, your offering may be placed in these plates, preferably before Worship begins. This helps our usher gather our offerings to bring forward and return them before God.*



If you would like to make your offering at Mount Calvary electronically, an easy way is to use the QR Code on the left to access the Vanco online giving option.

ANTHEM:

"We Three Kings"

THE PRAYERS: After each petition, the Worship Leader will say, *"Lord in Your mercy,"* and the congregation will respond, **"Hear our prayer."**

THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.**

Hosanna. Hosanna.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

LAMB OF GOD (Agnus Dei)

**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.**

THE DISTRIBUTION (*The center cup in each tray is white grape juice for pregnant moms or those allergic to alcohol.*)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

<i>"In the Bleak Midwinter"</i>		
<i>"Gentle Mary Laid Her Child"</i>	Hymn #370	
<i>"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"</i>		Hymn #411

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. 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 in 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.

THE BENEDICTION

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.

Amen.

THE CLOSING HYMN:

"As of Gladness Men of Old" Hymn #397

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE

Divine Service, Setting ONE from Lutheran Service Book

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Altar Flowers are provided this week by Steve & Jan Kirchoff to the glory of God.

Mount Calvary has received donations in memory of Norma Savage, Whitney Howe's grandmother, from Jim & Barbara Morey, Joan Smith & Maggie Monahan.

Mount Calvary has received donations in memory of Peggy Timm, Suzanne O'Daniel's mother, from Jim & Barbara Morey, Don & Judy Parrott, Maggie Monahan and Joan Smith.

Mount Calvary has received a donation in memory of John Clark, Judy Parrott's brother, from Jim & Barbara Morey.

Thank you!! Whitney and I want to thank you for all the delicious baked goods, Christmas cards, and the generous Christmas gifts. Your generosity is very much appreciated. We give thanks to Jesus for our life together at Mount Calvary. We look forward to "Connecting people to Jesus and to one another to serve the world" together in 2026.

- Pastor Andrew, Whitney, Jensen, Davis, and Mason Howe

The Assimilation Board is collecting photos for those who are interested in being in the directory and couldn't have their pictures taken. Please include our members who are shut in, in nursing homes, and military members, if possible. Anyone who has pictures of past church events, we would love to possibly use them. Pictures can be put in the Assimilation mailbox.

The 2026 Secret Sister Tea will be on January 11, 2026 at 12:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. At the Tea your 2025 Secret Sister will be revealed and you will have an opportunity to draw a name for 2026. Even if you did not participate in 2025, you are welcome to be a part of the 2026 Tea. Please register on the sign-in sheet on the Information desk in the narthex. If you want to have a Secret Sister for 2026 but are unable to attend the Tea, see Maggie Monahan for a Secret Sister form and she will make sure you are included in the drawing of names.

Altar Flower Chart: We have a flower chart ready for 2026 on the Information Desk. We have revised the chart and hope the new chart style will allow for more room to write in what you'd like to see when honoring someone special.

We want to express our sincere gratitude for the thoughtful monetary gifts and gift cards you have bestowed on us. We are so blessed to be a part of this congregation. May God bless you abundantly for your kindness. - Becky McVay & Jack Knight

Pledge Cards and Time and Talent Sheets — Its not too late to submit your intentions for giving and your desires to serve. Pledge cards and Time And Talent Sheets are available at the information counter in the Narthex or see Jim Morey.

On Sunday, January 25th, the Social Ministry Board will place the Caring Solutions Baby Bottles on the Information desk in the Narthex. Please take a bottle and fill it with a check or money. Make your checks out to "Caring Solutions" and this is a tax-deductible contribution. Return all bottles by Sunday, February 22nd and we will take to Caring Solutions. Place your "filled" bottles in the shoe box on the Bookshelf in Vicar Zach's office. Caring Solutions is an organization that attempts to remove barriers that sway patients to choose abortion rather than life.

TAG Night – High School: The first TAG Night of 2026 will be this Sunday, January 4th, from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Annex. Join us for fun, food, and a Bible-centered discussion of life.

Young Adult Bible Study: We will resume meeting this Sunday, January 4th, from 8:30-10 at Sonja and Pastor Pete's home (413 Erin Way). We hope to see you there!

College Bible Class: Our college age youth resume meeting this Wednesday, January 7th, at 8:30. We meet on Zoom so students can join in wherever they are. Contact Pastor Pete (DCEPete91@gmail.com) to be sent a link to the class.

Friday Night Party! – Middle School: We start off 2026 with a Party on January 9th, from 6-9 pm. The cost is \$5/person to cover snacks, drinks, and pizza.

Annex Cleaning – Student Leadership Development Team: We will be cleaning the Annex on Saturday, January 10th, from 9 am – 3 pm. Lunch will be provided for workers.

ACTIVATE! – Middle & High School: Activate is an indoor set of challenge courses for individuals or groups to work through. One you try it, you will be hooked. It is open to both Middle and High School Youth. The cost is \$25/person plus money for lunch on the way home.

Taking Down the Greens. Please join us in taking down the greens immediately after 10:45 service today. The process of removing the greens is fast work when we have helpers and usually is finished in about 20-30 minutes! The Altar Guild thanks you.

Thank you to those who have made special donations to the Altar Guild fund and donated to the Poinsettias and Easter Lily displays over the past few years. As you know, these donations help us purchase items to help us beautify our church during the special holiday seasons. This year we were able to move forward with the purchase of the new Nativity. The previous Nativity that we have enjoyed for close to 30 years was lovingly made and painted by Sherry Parsons and her mother and has become fragile and some pieces have broken in the last few years. We will continue to use the pieces that remain intact in new spaces around the church.

Altar Flower Dedications: The flowers on the altar are there for the glory of God and to beautify the church. They represent sacrifice and therefore must be live flowers. It is a privilege to be able to glorify God, remember loved ones and honor birthdays, anniversaries, etc. Please consider signing up for altar flowers for the glory of God and to beautify the church. There is a very large number of empty slots on our flower chart and we rely on the congregation to provide most of the funds to purchase the flowers. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

SCAM ALERT- never respond to an email or text from the Pastors or any staff asking for "assistance," a "favor," or even a "please reply to this note." They end up asking for "gift cards." We will NOT reach out in this manner. This year, we have had several phishing scams pretending to be Pastor Andrew. It will likely increase as we near the holiday season. The pastoral staff has resources to help those in need through the alms fund. When in doubt, you can call our pastors directly.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

The family of John Clark, Judy Parrott's brother, who died December 25th.

Ronald Curenton, Sr., Ron's father, who has been diagnosed with lung cancer and is being evaluated to determine the advancement.

Dave Radcliff, who is recovering from a procedure to improve his ability to sleep.

David Snow, son of Ray Snow, who will be undergoing treatment for cancer.

Allen Hickman, who will have an ablation in a few weeks.

(NOTE: Those listed under "Keep in your prayers" are removed from the list after eight weeks. If there is someone you would like to keep on the list for another eight weeks, please contact the church office.)

Keep In Your Prayers

Michelle Hopf, Norman Thompson, Maggie Monahan, Gary Schafer (former member), Nick Kesler (Liz Hunter's brother), John Stadler (Joan Smith's brother), Don Parrott, Sandy Richardson (Ashley Griffin's aunt), Louise Maley (Jimmy Martin's mother), Mike Ming (Nancy Branscom's nephew), Cynthia Trichinotis, Joan Steese, Lisa Starkman, Jay Fortner (Vicar Zachary's friend), Barbara Bauman, Susan McEachern and Barbara Mabee.

Those Battling Cancer

Pastor Aaron Sterling, Bob Yeager, Marie White, Chris Mabee, Michael Deskin (Walt & Cheryl Stafford's son-in-law), Andy Doute (Elizabeth and Lonny Walker's son-in-law), Jeff Grube, John Hanrahan (Mark Dieckmann's brother-in-law), Jenny Tillery (Ed and Kim Rekau's daughter), Walt Stafford, Erika Swaim (Marcia Brighton's mother), Scott Ramsey (Amanda McVay's uncle), Allison Brewer (Jan and Steve Kirchoff's daughter), Marcia Copeland (Maggie Monahan's sister), Jenny Hursey (Fred & Nancy's daughter-in-law), Wilson Baughman, Tom Guilford (Sylvia's oldest son), Matt Voskuil (Debi Cole's son) and Norma Young (Melinda Hopf's aunt).

SERVING US TODAY

PREACHER: Pastor Pete LeBorius. **LITURGIST** Pastor Andrew Howe. **ELDERS:** Eric Gossman (8 am) and Dave Yingling (10:45 am). **USHERS:** Early - Don Parrott, Darron Counselman, Mark Dieckmann & Dick Hamilton. Late – Paul Ferguson, Sam Culpepper, Chuck Mollenkopf & John Harmon. **LAY READERS:** Dave Yingling (8 am) and Adam Beecher (10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Dina Gossman, Suzanne O'Daniel, & Ruthie Radcliff.

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: Rob Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Mark Dieckmann (Sun 8 am) & John Van Buskirk (Sun 10:45 am). **LAY READERS:** Rob Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Herschel Siebert (Sun 8 am) & Pat Aldredge (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Whitney Howe, Deb Fingles & Lexie Hadley.

Last Week's Attendance

Christmas Eve 5 pm – 160 7 pm – 112 10 pm – 92 Total – 364
Christmas Day - 50
Sunday – 121

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Today	6:30 pm	TAG Night
	8:30 pm	Young Adult Bible Study
Monday	1:00 pm	Women's Small Group
Tuesday	3:45 pm	RG@MC Tutoring
Wednesday	10:00 am	Morning Glories
	5:30 pm	Dinner
	6:15 pm	Christian Education
	8:30 pm	College Bible Study
Thursday	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
	4:30 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
Friday	6 – 9 pm	Middle School Party
Saturday	9 am-3 pm	Annex Cleaning – SLDT Youth
	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
Next Sunday	6:30 pm	SLDT Meeting
	8:30 pm	Young Adult Bible Study