

As We Gather

Each of God's people has a special life story. The book of Jeremiah contains the messages of a prophet whose calling to speak the Word of the Lord brought him great distress and many difficulties. Known as the "weeping prophet," Jeremiah lived out his life faithfully in challenging historical times. Places associated with him and his life can still be seen by travelers to Jerusalem, including the cave pit where he was imprisoned and the grotto where, according to tradition, he wrote the book of Lamentations. God gave Jeremiah the ability to carry out his mission, saying: "Behold, I make you this day a fortified city . . . and iron pillar" and promised him: "I am with you . . . to deliver you" (Jeremiah 1:18-19). God's working through faithful people in each generation brings us the treasure of His Word proclaimed faithfully to this day. That transmitted sacred Word merits our most careful and thoughtful listening!

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING**OPENING SONG:*****"Glorious Day"***

**I was buried beneath my shame
Who could carry that kind of weight
It was my tomb 'til I met You**

**I was breathing but not alive
All my failures I tried to hide
It was my tomb 'til I met You**

Chorus

**You called my name (and) I ran out of that grave
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day
You called my name (and) I ran out of that grave
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day
Now Your mercy has saved my soul
Now Your freedom is all that I know
The old made new Jesus when I met You (chorus)**

**I needed rescue, my sin was heavy
But chains break at the weight of Your glory**

**I needed shelter, I was an orphan
Now You call me a citizen of Heaven**

**When I was broken, You were my healing
Now Your love is the air that I'm breathing**

**I have a future, my eyes are open
'Cause when You called my name**

I ran out of that grave!

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INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalms 119:89-94*)

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

Amen.

Your word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens.

**Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you established the earth,
and it endures.**

Your laws endure to this day, for all things serve you.

If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.

I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have preserved my life.

Save me, for I am yours; I have sought out your precepts.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

My brothers and sisters in Christ, where our Lord is, there is forgiveness. We come together in His name, seeking not only His presence but also His grace. Let us, then, confess our sins.

(Please kneel)

Almighty God, merciful Father,

I have sinned in thought, word, and deed. I have not loved you with my whole heart, soul, and mind, and I have not loved my neighbor as myself. I ask your forgiveness not because of my own worthiness, but purely for the sake of the passion, death, and resurrection of my Savior, Jesus Christ. O Lord, forgive me, and by your Spirit, lead me on the paths of righteous living for your name's sake. Amen.

As you believe, so let it be. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, speaking in the name and stead 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. **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE:

"10,000 Reasons"

Chorus

**Bless the Lord oh my soul, Oh my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before, Oh my soul
I worship Your holy name**

**The sun comes up, It's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
What ever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes (chorus)**

**You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
10,000 reasons for my heart to find (chorus)**

**And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Soon my soul will sing Your praise unending
10,000 years and then forever more (chorus x2)**

**I'll worship Your holy name
Lord, I worship Your holy name**

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THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: Jeremiah 23:16–29 (*The prophets bring words of warning from God.*)

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the LORD.

¹⁷ They say continually to those who despise the word of the LORD, 'It shall be well with you'; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, 'No disaster shall come upon you.'"

¹⁸ For who among them has stood in the council of the LORD to see and to hear his word, or who has paid attention to his word and listened?

¹⁹ Behold, the storm of the LORD! Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tempest; it will burst upon the head of the wicked.

²⁰ The anger of the LORD will not turn back until he has executed and accomplished the intents of his heart. In the latter days you will understand it clearly.

²¹ "I did not send the prophets, yet they ran; I did not speak to them, yet they prophesied.

²² But if they had stood in my council, then they would have proclaimed my words to my people, and they would have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their deeds.

²³ "Am I a God at hand, declares the LORD, and not a God far away? ²⁴ Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD. ²⁵ I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, 'I have dreamed, I have dreamed!' ²⁶ How long shall there be lies in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart, ²⁷ who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, even as their fathers forgot my name for Baal? ²⁸ Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? declares the LORD. ²⁹ Is not my word like fire, declares the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING: Hebrews 11:17–31 *(God's people live by faith.)*

¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, ¹⁸ of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." ¹⁹ He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. ²⁰ By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. ²¹ By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. ²² By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

²³ By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict. ²⁴ By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, ²⁵ choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶ He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.

²⁷ By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible. ²⁸ By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.

²⁹ By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 12:49–56 *(Jesus speaks of His purpose of being on earth.)*

⁴⁹ "I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. ⁵² For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. ⁵³ They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

⁵⁴ He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, 'A shower is coming.' And so it happens. ⁵⁵ And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. ⁵⁶ You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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 MESSAGE:

Pastor Andrew Howe

THE 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 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.

SONG OF RESPONSE:

"Christ Our Hope in Life and Death"

**What is our hope in life and death
Christ alone, Christ alone
What is our only confidence**

That our souls to Him belong
Who holds our days within His hand
What comes, apart from His command
And what will keep us to the end
The love of Christ, in which we stand

Chorus

O sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

What truth can calm the troubled soul
God is good, God is good
Where is His grace and goodness known
In our great Redeemer's blood
Who holds our faith when fears arise
Who stands above the stormy trial
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
Unto the shore, the rock of Christ (chorus)

Unto the grave, what will we sing
Christ, He lives, Christ, He lives
And what reward will heaven bring
Everlasting life with Him
There we will rise to meet the Lord
Then sin and death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy
When Christ is ours forevermore

Chorus (x2)

Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

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

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.

THE DISTRIBUTION *(An Usher will invite your pew to come forward to receive the bread and individual cup. The center cups in each tray are white grape juice for those who cannot drink alcohol. You may place your individual cup on the communion rail after you have communed.)*

THE DISTRIBUTION SONGS:

"Abide"

For my waking breath, For my daily bread
I depend on You
I depend on You
For the sun to rise, For my sleep at night
I depend on You
I depend on You

You're the way the truth and the life
You're the well that never runs dry
I'm the branch and You are the vine
Draw me close and teach me to abide

Where the Spirit leads, As I'm following
I depend on You
I depend on You

For the victories, Still in front of me
I depend on You
I depend on You

Chorus

You're the way the truth and the life
You're the well that never runs dry
I'm the branch and You are the vine
Draw me close and teach me to abide

Be my strength my song in the night
Be my all my treasure my prize
I am Yours forever You're mine
Draw me close and teach me to abide

When I pass through death, As I enter rest
I depend on You
I depend on You
For eternal life, To be raised with Christ

I depend on You
I depend on You (chorus)

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THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the gift of His body and blood may abide in Him and He in us, that we may be filled with the power of His endless life, 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 SONG: *"Death Was Arrested"*

**Alone in my sorrow and dead in my sin
Lost without hope with no place to begin
Your love made a way to let mercy come in
When death was arrested and my life began**

**Ash was redeemed only beauty remains
My orphan heart was given a name**

**My mourning grew quiet my feet rose to dance
When death was arrested and my life began**

Chorus

**Oh Your grace so free washes over me
You have made me new now life begins with You
It's Your endless love pouring down on us
You have made us new now life begins with You**

**Released from my chains I'm a pris'ner no more
My shame was a ransom He faithfully bore
He cancelled my debt and He called me His friend
When death was arrested and my life began (chorus)**

**Our Savior displayed on a criminal's cross
Darkness rejoiced as though Heaven had lost
But then Jesus arose with our freedom in hand
That's when death was arrested and my life began (chorus)**

Bridge (2x)

**Oh we're free free forever we're free
Come join the song of all the redeemed
Yes we're free free forever amen
When death was arrested and my life began**

**When death was arrested and my life began
When death was arrested and my life began**

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THE SENDING

Go in peace!

And serve the Lord. Thanks be to God!

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Altar Flowers this week are provided by Erv & Kathy Robinson in honor of their wedding Anniversary (Aug 16) and by Dave & Lois Harter in honor of their wedding anniversary (Aug 19).

Mount Calvary has received donations in memory of Bill Zeuner from Joyce Hutton and Barbara & Carl Mabee.

Mount Calvary has received donations in memory of Jeffrey Harter, Dave's son, from Bill & Jacque Bohm and Barbara & Carl Mabee.

Mount Calvary has received donations in memory of Martha Ann Carter, Shiela Grube's mother, from Barbara & Carl Mabee, Jim & Barbara Mabee and Danny & Kathy Grube.

Rebecca's Garden Volunteer Orientation Meeting: An orientation meeting for all those volunteering for the 25/26 Rebecca's Garden school year will be held on Saturday, August 23, from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. in the Mount Calvary Fellowship Hall. Please contact Karen Harmon at 478-918-3685 with any questions.

College Midweek Bible Study: We have begun a new group for our college age students. Currently we are meeting in person at the McDonalds on the corner of Lake Joy and Russell Parkway every Wednesday at 8:30 pm. Later this month we will be switching to a Zoom study so that our away college students can stay connected. (This class will also be Wednesdays at 8:30 pm.) Talk to Pastor Pete for more details.

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS

September Newsletter Deadline: Please have all items for the September Newsletter in to the office by August 24th.

Join Us for a Danube River Tour! You're invited to join Pastor John and Renee Lehenbauer for an unforgettable Danube River tour, September 29 – October 9, 2026. Experience the beauty, history, and culture of Europe from the comfort of a river cruise, with inspiring fellowship and daily opportunities to reflect on God's hand in world events. For more information, please contact Renee Lehenbauer at 478-397-5905. Spots are limited. Reserve early!

College Midweek Bible Study: This class will not be meeting this week but will resume on Wednesday, August 20th, as we switch to a Zoom study to stay connected with our college students who are out of town. (This class will also be Wednesdays at 8:30 pm.) Talk to Pastor Pete for more details.

Youth Weekend: August 23rd & 24th

Worship: Our worship's readings and message will reflect on God's work through the gathering experience as well as including some music from the National Youth Gathering (Both hymns and contemporary) with the youth singing from the balcony.

Thank-you Dinner (August 24th, 5:30-7:30): The youth will be hosting a dinner for their sponsors and parents this evening. We will be sharing highlights and stories from the trip as we enjoy a New Orleans meal together.

The Annual Gulf Shores Family Servant Event takes place on October 5-8. On these dates, we do some service projects for Camp Dixie LCMS in Elberta, Alabama in the mornings. In return, the camp allows us to stay for free and have afternoons for free time. Adults, youth, and children accompanied by their parents are welcome. For further information, sign up online at tinyurl.com/55ayyaty.

Youth Weekend: August 22nd & 23rd

Worship: Our worship's readings and message will reflect on God's work through the gathering experience as well as including some music from the National Youth Gathering (Both hymns and contemporary) with the youth singing from the balcony.

Thank-you Dinner (August 23rd, 5:30-7:30): The youth will be hosting a dinner for their sponsors and parents this evening. We will be sharing highlights and stories from the trip as we enjoy a New Orleans meal together.

Team Building Retreat – Middle School Youth & Parents: Our Middle School Youth will gathering August 22nd & 23rd for a weekend of faith and fellowship building. Our Bible Study and Worship theme for the weekend is "Walking With God." In addition to Bible Studies and Worship we will be doing team building activities. The event goes from 5:00 Friday evening to 5:00 Saturday evening. NEW THIS YEAR! We are encouraging ALL PARENTS to join us Friday night to get to know one another better through Bible Study and team building activities.

Young Adult Small Group: Our Young Adults (23+) will kick off the new year with a cook out at Pastor Pete and Sonja's home (413 Erin Way) on Sunday, August 31st, from 5:30-8 pm. We will resume meeting for Bible Study the following week (September 7th) at 8:30.

Partners with Shirley Hills Elementary School: Shirley Hills Elementary School has again partnered with RG@MC to provide free after-school tutoring to eligible SH students during the 2025/26 school years. RG@MC will meet after school on Tuesdays from **3:45 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.**, beginning **September 9, 2025**, through **April 28, 2026**. Student transportation from school to Mount Calvary is provided by the church van. Mount Calvary provides transportation home in the van for up to 13 students. Undertaking a church ministry, even as worthwhile and rewarding as RG@MC, is not for the faint of heart. Prayerful planning, implementation and ongoing administration require much time, effort, commitment, patience, perseverance and especially faith. By the grace of God, each year, faithful volunteers from our congregation have served as tutors, mentors, administrators, cooks, caregivers, music leaders, van drivers and riders, and helpers. And each year, more volunteers are needed. If you would like to volunteer to help or have questions, please contact: **Karen Harmon at (478) 918-3685**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

The family of Daniel Adams, Daniel's father, who died on August 4th.

The family of Joseph Bellinger, Jr., Lois Harter's son, who died on August 13th.

Debbie Hardy, who is recovering from skin cancer surgery.

Barbara Bauman, who is recovering from a fall.

Allen Hickman, who was hospitalized this past week.

(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

Bob Yeager, Gerry Mabee (Carl's brother), Don Parrott, Dave Nielsen, Cynthia Trichinotis, Sue Glaser, Beverly Bachmeier (Katherine Eubanks and Richard Uitto's sister), Eugene O'Neal, Jean Clark (Judy Parrott's sister), Marie White, Karen Harmon and Ned Watson.

Those Battling Cancer

Dawna Dugan (Dina Gossman's sister), 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), Diane Adair (Joan Smith's sister), Lori Stadler (Joan Smith's niece), Jeff Grube, John Hanrahan (Mark Dieckmann's brother-in-law), Judy Nicholas (Michelle Crawford's mother), 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), Jamey Sillence and Norma Young (Melinda Hopf's aunt).

SERVING US TODAY

PREACHER: Pastor Andrew Howe. **LITURGIST:** Pastor Andrew Howe. **ELDER:** Bill Bohm. **LAY READER:** Becky McVay. **ALTAR GUILD:** Liz Hunter, Barbara Locke & Linna Nielsen.

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: Rob Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Don Barnes (Sun 8 am) and Walt Seefeld (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Andrew Fischer (Sun 8 am) and Izzy Davis (Sun 10:45 am). **LAY READERS:** Rhoda Reilly (Sat 6 pm), Darron Counselman (Sun 8 am) and Chuck Mollenkopf (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Valerie Counselman, Denise Forehand, Nancy Hoar & Kim Leslie. **GREETERS:** Eric & Dina Gossman (Sun 8 am) and Don Netzing (10:45 am).

Last Week's Attendance

Saturday – 32 Early – 76 Late – 119 Total – 227

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Today	6:30 pm	TAG Night
Monday	6:00 pm	GriefShare Support Group
Wednesday	5:30 pm	Dinner
	6:15 pm	Christian Education
	8:30 pm	College Bible Study
Thursday	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
	11:00 am	Senior Fellowship
	6:00 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
Saturday	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
Next Sunday	6:30 pm	SLDT Meeting