

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 LeBorious Associate Pastor

Jamie Dick Music Director

Katie Simmons

Director of Contemporary Worship

Zachary Boeyink Vicar

Jerry Bisping Director of Christian Outreach, Emeritus



## TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**AUGUST 31, 2025** 

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO JESUS AND TO ONE ANOTHER TO SERVE THE WORLD

#### As We Gather

To be the "favorite child" in a family is often a source of competition and sometimes a source for comedy. Years ago, a pair of sibling entertainers, the Smothers Brothers, made their family relationship a staple of their onstage humor when Tom, the older brother, would remind Dickie, the younger, "Mom always did like you best." As we gather with God's people at worship week by week, we can be certain that our gracious God values all of us and is pleased to see us grow in grace year by year. The psalmist wrote that "the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor" (Psalm 84:11). In the same Psalm 84 is the verse where the psalmist exclaims to God, "For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere" (v. 10). There is nothing better than for God's favorite people, which we are, to be gathered in a most favorite place—which this is! It doesn't get any better than that!

#### **PRELUDE**

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

OPENING HYMN: "In Christ There Is No East or West"

In Christ there is no east or west, In Him no south or north, But one great fellowship of love Throughout the whole wide earth.

With God there is no tribe or race; In Him we all are one. He loves us as His children through Our faith in His dear Son.

So, brothers, sisters, praise His name
Who died to set us free
From sin, division, hate, and shame,
From spite and enmity!

Join hands, disciples of the faith, Whate'er your race may be; Who serves my Father as His child Is surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west; In Him meet south and north. All Christian souls are one in Him Throughout the whole wide earth. Text (sts. 1, 4–5): John Oxenham, 1852–1941, alt.; (st. 2): Mark A. Jeske, 1952; (st. 3): Michael A. Perry, 1942–96

Text (sts. 1, 4–5): Public domain

Text (st. 2): © 1993 Mark A. Jeske; (st. 3): © 1982 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000973

#### INVOCATION

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

Amen.

#### 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.

(Please Stand)

**THE ENTRANCE PSALM** (*Psalm 50:15; 119:145-149*)

Pastor: O LORD, my heart is not lifted up; my eyes are not raised too high;

**People: I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me.**Pastor: But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; like a

weaned child is my soul within me.

People: O Israel, hope in the LORD from this time forth and forevermore.

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE: "Christ is Our Cornerstone" Hymn #912

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. O Lord, You have called us to enter Your kingdom through the narrow door. Guide us by Your Word and Spirit, and lead us now and always into the feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Please be seated.)

# **THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 66:18-23** (The glory of the Lord.)

<sup>18</sup> "For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, <sup>19</sup> and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands far away, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations. <sup>20</sup> And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the LORD, on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the LORD, just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the LORD. <sup>21</sup> And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites, says the LORD. <sup>22</sup> "For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain. <sup>23</sup> From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the LORD.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

# THE EPISTLE READING: Hebrews 12:4-24 (An exhortation to faithful, peaceful living.)

- <sup>4</sup> In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.
  <sup>5</sup> And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. <sup>6</sup> For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives." <sup>7</sup> It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? <sup>8</sup> If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons.
- <sup>9</sup> Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? <sup>10</sup> For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. <sup>11</sup> For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.
- Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, <sup>13</sup> and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. <sup>14</sup> Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. <sup>15</sup> See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no "root of bitterness" springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; <sup>16</sup> that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. <sup>17</sup> For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.

<sup>18</sup> For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest <sup>19</sup> and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. <sup>20</sup> For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned." <sup>21</sup> Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear." <sup>22</sup> But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, <sup>23</sup> and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, <sup>24</sup> and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

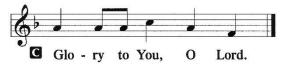
(Please Stand)

#### THE ALLELUIA VERSE:



## THE HOLY GOSPEL IS ANNOUNCED:

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.



**THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 13:22-30** (Jesus shares insights into His kingdom that is to come.)

He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem.
And someone said to him, "Lord, will those who are saved be few?" And he said to them,
the said to them, "Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us,' then he will answer you, 'I do not know where you come from.' Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.' Then you will begin to say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!' That place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



## THE 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.

(Please be seated.)

THE CHILDRENS MESSAGE:

Mr. Jamie Dick

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** 

"In Christ Alone"

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay Light of the world by darkness slain Then bursting forth in glorious Day Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

© 2001 Thankyou Music CCLI Song # 3350395 -- CCLI License # 1629398

THE MESSAGE

Vicar Zachary Boeyink

**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: "Jesus"

#### LABOR DAY REFLECTION

**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 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: "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less" Hymn #576

#### A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

#### THE POSTLUDE

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder  $\ensuremath{\text{@}}$  2025 Concordia Publishing House.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Our Altar Flowers are provided this week** by Eileen Mittuch in memory of Steve Mittuch.

<u>Mount Calvary has received a donation in memory of Joseph Bellinger Jr.,</u> Lois Harter's son, from Danny & Kathy Grube.

**Mount Calvary has received a donation in memory of Bill Zeuner** from Barbara Groat.

The Noisy Can Collection will be this weekend (August 30/31). We thank everyone for their donations to help make the noise.

**Ronald McDonald House Shopping – High School Youth:** We are trying something new on Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at the Annex at 10:00 and go grocery shopping for the Ronald McDonald House in Macon. After we deliver the groceries, we will stop for lunch on the way home. There is no cost for this event but youth are asked to bring money for lunch.

<u>College Midweek Bible Study:</u> We've made the switch for our college Bible Study. This group meets online every Wednesday at 8:30. If you (or a college student you know) are interested in joining us, e-mail Pastor Pete (<u>DCEPete@gmail.com</u>) to receive a link.

<u>Outreach Party – High School Youth:</u> Saturday, August 30<sup>th</sup>, 7-10 pm in the Annex. These events are designed for our youth to bring friends and introduce them to our fellowship at Mount Calvary. The cost is \$5/person to cover snacks, pizza, and drinks BUT, friends get in free with a Party Pass.

**Young Adult Small Group:** Next Sunday our Young Adult group will kick off the new year with a cook out at Pastor Pete and Sonja's home (413 Erin Way) this Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, from 5:30-8 pm. We will resume meeting for Bible Study the following week (September 7<sup>th</sup>) at 8:30.

<u>Did you hear?</u> Mount Calvary is celebrating its 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year. Please mark Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup> on your calendar and watch for announcements with more details.

**Friday Night Party – Middle School Youth:** This Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 6-9 pm in the Annex. These parties are a time for our youth to gather and grow as the body of Christ as we play together and have a Gospel-centered devotion. The cost is \$5/person to cover snacks, pizza, and drinks.

**Fall Follies Ladies' Tea Party:** Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, for the Fall Follies Tea Party. This event is sponsored by the Student Leadership Development Team. Tickets are available after worship beginning this weekend for \$10/person

ATTENTION ALL MEN: We are experiencing a shortage of Ushers for all services. This service to God and Mt. Calvary does not take up any of your free time. The Ushers provide the Elders with a support team to pass out bulletins, greet people at sanctuary door, assist with communion, ensure we have an accurate attendance count, and following services check sanctuary to ensure all is in order for the following service. Each Ushers team is scheduled for three (3) months each year in addition to the requirements of special services during our church year. This may seem like a lot of effort but in reality is very easy to accomplish. If you are interested or have further questions please contact Don Parrott at cell number 478-335-3684 or email at <a href="mailto:parrottdl@cox.net">parrottdl@cox.net</a>.

**Special Opportunity to Serve:** We are in need of volunteers - All are welcome to join the **Altar Guild.** Whether you can give a little time or a lot, your hands and heart can make a difference. No prior experience is needed—just a willing spirit! If you feel called to serve, please reach out to **Toli Van Buskirk / 478-396-1395 /altarquildmclc@qmail.com.** 

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." -1 Peter 4:10

#### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Richard Uitto, who is recovering at home from a fall.

Pastor Michael, who is in the hospital and recovering from gall bladder surgery and an infection.

**Lisalee Starkman**, who will have surgery on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Jerry Eschke**, Alyce Quillen's cousin, who is recovering from heart surgery.

**George Schulz**, who is recovering from heart surgery.

**Andy Doute**, Elizabeth and Lonny Walker's son-in-law, who is recovering from shoulder surgery.

**Marie White**, who is recovering from a fall.

**Susan McEachern**, who is recovering from Covid.

**Debbie Hardy**, who is recovering from skin cancer surgery.

**The families and children of Annunciation Catholic Church** in Minneapolis as they recover from the mass shooting August 27<sup>th</sup>.

(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**

Allen Hickman, Barbara Bauman, 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**: Vicar Zachary Boeyink. **LITURGIST**: Pastor Pete LeBorious. **ELDERS**: Walt Seefeld (8 am) and Dave Yingling (10:45 am). **ACOLYTES**: Jude Van Buskirk (8 am) and Lily Johnson (10:45 am). **USHERS**: Early – Brian Harper, David Rossman, Bob Yeager & Fred Tamer. Late – Mike Hopf & Dave Harter. **LAY READERS**: Lexie Hadley (8 am) and Roger Moeller (10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD**: Valerie Counselman, Denise Forehand, Nancy Hoar & Kim Leslie. **GREETERS**: Erv & Kathy Robinson (8 am) and Marcia Brighton & Debby Miller (10:45 am).

## **SERVING US NEXT WEEK**

**ELDERS**: Bill Bohm (Sat 6 pm), John Van Buskirk (Sun 8 am) and Dave Yingling (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES**: Open (Sun 8 am) and Open (Sun 10:45 am). **LAY READERS**: Bill Bohm (Sat 6 pm), Brian Harper (Sun 8 am) and Barbara Bauman (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD**: Dina Gossman, Suzanne O'Daniel & Ruthie Radcliff. **GREETERS**: Barbara Locke (Sun 8 am) and Jo Drinkhahn & Edna Hicks (10:45 am).

<u>Last Week's Attendance</u> Saturday – 51 Early – 76 Late – 101 Total – 228

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY		
Monday	CLOSED FO	OR LABOR DAY
Tuesday	6:30 pm	Boards
	7:00 pm	Elders
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
	6:00 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
Friday	6 – 9 pm	Middle School Party
Saturday	10:00 am	Ronald McDonald House Shopping
	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
Today	6:30 pm	TAG Night
	8:30 pm	Young Adult Bible Study