

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2023



Mount Calvary Ev. Lutheran Church
San Antonio, Texas

We realize that it is difficult for some people to stand, or kneel, for long periods of time. Please feel free to sit as necessary during the liturgy and the prayers. Sitting during the confession is also appropriate for those who cannot kneel.

DIVINE SERVICE

SETTING ONE

PRELUDE

Stand

OPENING HYMN: God Himself Is Present

LSB 907

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

C Amen.

Matthew 28:19b; [18-20]

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

Kneel/Stand ~ 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. *[John 20:19-23]*

C Amen.

Stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

pg. 152-153

INTROIT

Psalm 27:4-6; antiphon: Psalm 25:15



My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,*
for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.

One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek | after:*

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his | temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of | trouble;*

he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high up- | on a rock.

And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with | shouts of joy;*

I will sing and make melody | to the LORD.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

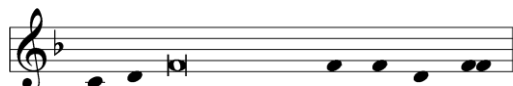
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,*

for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.

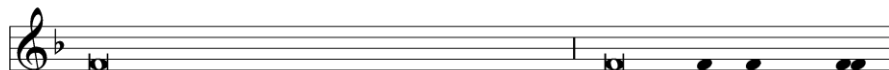
KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.




C Lord, have mer - cy.




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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



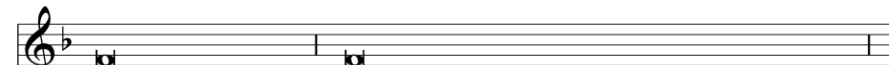
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

C A - men.

During the season of lent, the GLORIA IN EXCELSIS is omitted.

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

pg. 156

P The Lord be with you.

C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 42:14–21

For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant. ¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools. ¹⁶And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them. ¹⁷They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, "You are our gods."

¹⁸Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! ¹⁹Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the LORD?

²⁰He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear. ²¹The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Ephesians 5:8–14

For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

During Lent the ALLELUIA is omitted

Stand

HOLY GOSPEL

John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. ¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.” ³⁴They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out. ³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Stand

APOSTLES CREED

C 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.

Sit

GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Our offering is our way of saying, "Thank you" to God for all His gifts to us and to support His work here at Mt. Calvary and around the world. To all our guests this morning, we are happy to have you with us, but **you are under no obligation to give an offering**. But we would request your prayers for our ministry. We ask all present to please complete an attendance card found in the pew and place it in the offering plate in order that we have a record of your worshipping with us.*

OFFERTORY: Create in Me

LSB 956

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

VOLUNTARY

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

LSB 160

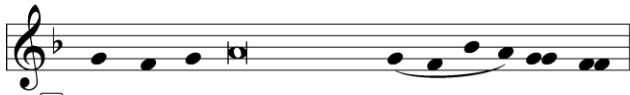

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22


C And al - so 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.

P 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, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 161



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, 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, we pray, 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.

C Amen.

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

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.

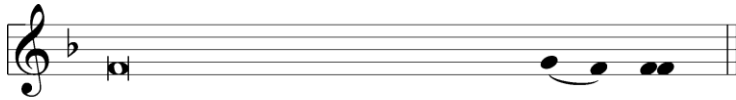
P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment.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

PAX DOMINI

LSB 163



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 163



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.
Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.
Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

OAR 245 How Great the Cross



1 How great the cross of Christ, the cru - ci - fied,
2 How great the cross of Christ, the cru - ci - fied!
3 How great the cross of Christ, the cru - ci - fied!
4 How great the cross of Christ, the cru - ci - fied!
5 How great the cross of Christ, the cru - ci - fied!



The throne where Christ our Lord was glo - ri - fied;
Our debt of sin was nailed with Him who died;
Pure streams of life flow from His wound - ed side,
Our path to Par - a - dise was once de - nied;
How great God's love, how deep and high and wide;



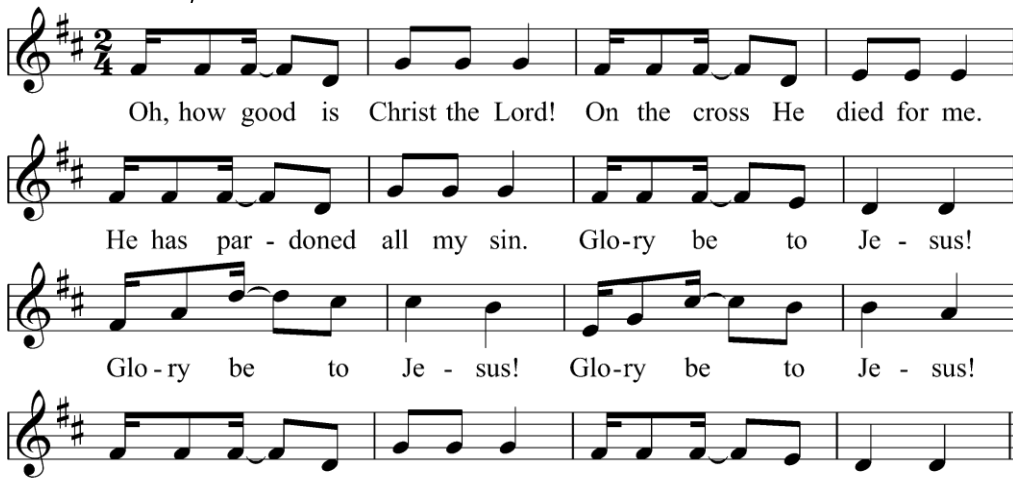
There, lift - ed up for all the world to see,
Our ev - 'ry wrong the Sav - ior has em - braced,
To plunge the earth be - neath that cleans - ing blood—
The sword is sheathed to bar the way no more,
Love, that fore - knew from all e - ter - ni - ty



Christ draws all peo - ple to His vic - to - ry!
All can - celed, paid in full— all debt e - rased.
Sin's high - est peaks are cov - ered by this flood.
The cross of Christ is now the o - pen door.
The cross: the price to res - cue you and me!

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OAR 202 Oh, How Good Is Christ the Lord!



Oh, how good is Christ the Lord! On the cross He died for me.
He has par - doned all my sin. Glo-ry be to Je - sus!
Glo-ry be to Je - sus! Glo-ry be to Je - sus!
In three days He rose a - gain. Glo-ry be to Je - sus!

LSB 435 Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

LSB 610 Lord Jesus, Think On Me

LSB 620 Jesus Comes Today With Healing

Stand

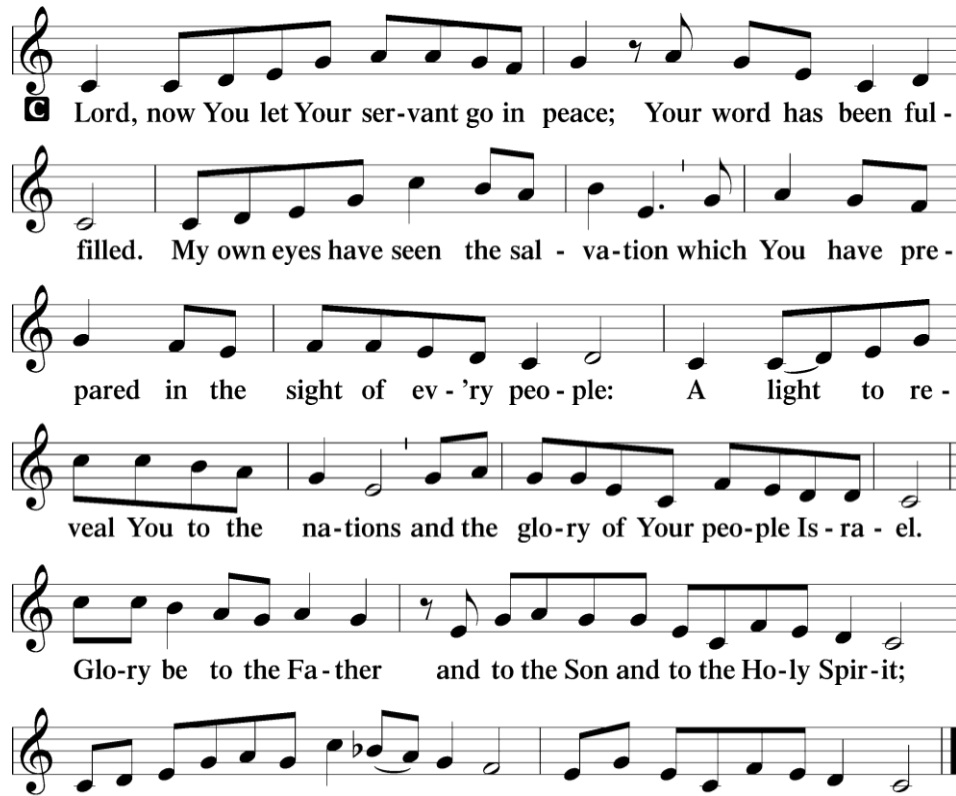
THE DISMISSAL

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

G Amen.

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32



G Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.
Glo-ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P 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.

C 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: Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

LSB 722

POSTLUDE

*Please join us for Sunday school in the gym following the 9:30am service.
Coffee and donuts are available.*

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Preacher: Rev. Michael Middaugh

Liturgist/Celebrant: Rev. Dr. Brian Kachelmeier

Organist: Rev. Craig Meissler

Elders: Marshall Leiber Jason Strawn Jim Koenig

Ushers: Kevin Rabenaldt Jeff Harwood

John Haumann Ralph Domel

Greeters: Linda Dietz Virginia Axtell

HOLY COMMUNION

- If you are a member of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and desire to take communion, please indicate on the Attendance Card found in the pew and place it in the offering plate. Because participation in the Lord's Supper is a public declaration of the Christian Faith which is confessed at this altar (Acts 2:42; 1 John 1:3; 1 Tim. 1:3; 4:16; 6:3-10; 2 Tim. 1:13; Rom. 16:17) those who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, are asked to respectfully refrain from participation today and speak with a pastor after the Divine Service. If you are not communing but wish to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest once you are kneeled at the communion rail.
- Both the common and individual cups are offered at each table simultaneously. If you desire the common cup, **please hold your hands open** and the Pastor will provide it to you, while the Elders serve the individual cups. It is proper to take hold of the cup when receiving the common cup. This helps prevent spilling and greatly assists the Pastor.

ALCOHOL-REMOVED WINE/GLUTEN-FREE WAFERS AVAILABLE

- For those who are allergic, or for health reasons, and unable to drink regular wine, alcohol-removed wine is available for Holy Communion. The alcohol-removed wine is white in color and is in the three individual cups in the center of each tray.
- Gluten-free wafers made from rice flour are also available. Please notify one of the pastors before the service that you would prefer the gluten-free option. The reception of this wine and the gluten-free wafers in no way affects the theological meaning or benefits of this Sacrament.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP During this hour, God comes to us in His Word and Sacrament, and we respond in prayer and praise! Here are a few practical tips for minimizing distractions and maximizing participation:

- **IN ORDER THAT WE HAVE** a record of your worshipping with us, we would ask all present to **please complete an attendance card** found in the pew and place it in the offering plate.
- We ask that you turn off or put away your phones and electronic devices so that you can participate fully in what God is doing during this special time dedicated to Him.
- While it is sometimes necessary to quiet an infant or toddler with a small snack or a bottle, **we ask that no other foods or beverages** be brought into the sanctuary.
- The ministerial staff is always available to you should you have spiritual care needs. Please contact the front office to arrange for pastoral care.
- Hearing devices are available for the hearing impaired. Please speak with one of the ushers.

CHILDREN & WORSHIP We love children and are happy they are here with us. Just as a child learns to speak by imitating the voice of mom or dad, so, too a child learns to worship by participating in the service at an early age. If you have questions about how to incorporate your child into the worship life of the congregation in an age-appropriate way, please see one of the pastors. **Assistance for children with special needs during worship and Sunday School is also available, see an usher for details.**

A nursery is also available (ask an usher for directions). It is open for children up to age three. Parents can also use it when quieting a child or changing a diaper. The service can be heard in the nursery. We do ask that sick children not be left in the nursery for the well-being of the other children.

Activity bags are available for your child(ren) in the narthex. The bags contain books and/or writing and drawing tablets. Some have stencils with either crayons or colored pencils. Please make sure all the items are returned to the bin in the narthex. We will have the bags ready for use again the following week. Children's bulletins are also available from the usher.

SUNDAY EDUCATION HOUR | 10:45am-12:00noon

For Adults

- **Adult Sunday School** / lecture style / Pastor Kachelmeier will continue our study on Psalms 1, 2, and 3.

For Students & Children – Go directly to the Music Room for opening after worship.

- **Nursery/Kinder (age 3 and up)** meet in the gym classroom.
- **Grades 1-8**, meet upstairs in the ministry building. High School meets in the gym.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN (3-year-olds-8th grade) – Please go directly to the Music Room after worship service for the Sunday school opening. Donuts will be available in the Music Room.

Gym: Pre-K (ages 3-4yrs): Mrs. Linda VanDyke, Mrs. Wendy Hankins & Ms. Kristen Watson

Kindergarten: Mrs. Adrienne Salinas

High School: Mrs. Michelle Thompson

Ministry Building (upstairs): Room 210 - 1st & 2nd: Mrs. Shirley Wille
Room 204 - 3rd & 4th: Mrs. Rebecca Kokos
Room 206 – Pre-Confirmation (5th & 6th) & Confirmation Class
(7th & 8th): Pastor Meissler

MIDWEEK STUDIES

Tuesday Morning Class | *Tues* | 10:00-11:30am

All are welcome! {Room 212}

Sons of Solomon Study | *Mon* | 6:30pm

See Spencer Hasch or Bev Kokos for more information.

Men's Study | 1st & 3rd Saturdays | 8:00-9:30am

This group is led by Jeff Harwood. {Parish Hall}

Women's Study | 3rd Mon | 7:30-8:30pm

Talk to Shirley Wille for more information. {Meets at members' homes}

Mom's Study | 1st & 3rd Mon | 6:00-7:30pm

Contact Wanda Laxson for details. {Meets in the Youth Room}



MOUNT CALVARY STAFF

Craig Meissler, Pastor Brian Kachelmeier, Pastor Mike Middaugh, Pastor

James Haupt, Pastor Emeritus

Butch Watson, Lay Minister Emeritus

Susan Melancon, Office Manager

David Thompson, Property Manager

Sheryl Jones, Bookkeeper

Janice Moore, Office Assistant

Pam Dodson, Handbell Director

Church Office **210-824-8748**

WEB PAGE ADDRESS: www.mtcsa.org

CHURCH E-MAIL: mtcalvary@mtcsa.org

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:00am-4:00pm; Friday 8:00am-noon

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK Last Sunday – 154 Midweek Lent – 78

OFFERINGS FOR MARCH 8TH & 12TH - \$ 10,643

2023 Budget: \$1,063,386 (\$ 88,615 Monthly, \$ 20,450 Weekly)

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS – March 19, 2023

Today	9:30am	Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
	10:45am	Sunday school/Adult class
	12:00-1:30pm	Youth Group (grades 7-12)
Monday	1:00pm	Braille #13
	2:30pm	All Things Lutheran Fellowship
	6:00pm	Mom's Bible study
Tuesday	10:00am	Tuesday Morning class
	6:30pm	Board of Evangelism
Wednesday	10:00am	Quilting
	5:30pm	Lenten Meal
	7:00pm	Midweek Lenten Service
Thursday	7:30am	Daytrippers (Czech Heritage & Cultural Ctr, LaGrange)
	6:00pm	Bell Choir
	7:00pm	Choir (High School & up)
Next Sunday	9:30am	Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
	10:45am	Sunday school/Adult class
	12:00-1:30pm	Youth Group (grades 7-12)

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP SERVICES continue to be live streamed and archived on our website. Sunday service is at 9:30am. Bible class/Sunday school for all ages is at 11:00am.

FLOWERS ARE given today to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for His many blessings.

PRAYERS – Martha Brenz at Northeast Baptist, Sally Koch at Juniper Village Lincoln Heights, Melba Wrase under hospice care, Elaine Ward at ARC Healthcare, Billy Morrison at Northeast Methodist, June Rehmann, Christine Prinz, Sharon Loeffler; our shut-ins: Sadako Burmeister, Mark Doerk, Muriel England, Heidi Farmer, Tammy Greinke. With sympathy to Walter Friend at the death of his mother, Roberta Friend.

PASTORAL CARE, VISITATION, & PRAYERS - If it is your desire to share a health condition, hospitalization, or procedure for which you would like a pastoral visit, it is important for us to know as much information ahead time as possible. Please contact the church office with all the pertinent information. If you are hospitalized or in rehab, it helps us a great deal to keep us updated as to where you are as well the room number if possible. If you wish you or your loved one to be included in the prayers of the Church on Sunday morning, please contact the church office as soon as you can. **LORD'S SUPPER** - If you are physically unable to get to church and would like to receive the Lord's Supper in your home, please contact the church office so that we can schedule date and time with one of the pastors.

JOIN US FOR OUR MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE THIS WEDNESDAY AT 7:00PM. Join us for King Ranch Chicken and salad next week at 5:30pm in the gym. A cookie and punch reception will be held following the service in the gym.

ALL THINGS LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP will meet this coming Monday, March 20th at 2:30pm in the church gym. Please contact Adrienne Salinas for more details. ALL ages to include children welcome!

THE CHURCH COUNCIL IS requesting that our staff, Dave Thompson and Susan Melancon, be permitted to enjoy and fully participate in the Sunday service and Sunday School. The Church Council is asking that any requests, comments, or problems you may see needing attention or fixing be brought to their attention during normal Monday thru Friday business hours.

Just as you like to have your weekends off, so should Dave and Susan. However, if an emergency or accident occurs on church property, you should not wait until Monday to contact someone. For example, if you find a toilet overflowing in a restroom on a weekend day, this needs to be taken care of immediately, and you should contact someone. Your assistance in caring for our staff personnel will be very much appreciated.

DAYTRIPPERS - Our day trip to La Grange is upcoming and if you want to learn more about the history, heritage, and culture of Czech Texans then come join us **Thursday, March 23rd as we visit the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center in La Grange, Texas**—the “Cradle of Czech Immigration!” Cost is \$5.00 per person (not including lunch). Lunch will be at the Oakridge Smokehouse Restaurant in Schulenburg. **Please be at the church 7:30 A.M.** The tour lasts about 2 hours which includes touring the Texas Czech village, so wear some good walking shoes! And on the way back from La Grange...there might be a Buc-ees stop!!! Plan for an all-day—estimated time back to the church is around 3:30-4:00ish. Sign-up sheet has been posted in the narthex! Please remember – one name per line (each line counts as a seat). Coordinator is Wanda Laxson.

ACTIVE SHOOTER RESPONSE & PREVENTION TRAINING (April 22nd 9am in the gym)

Protecting your church and individuals in your care against harm (including outside the church) is critical in today's environment. Active shooter response and prevention training provides organizations with an efficient and proven curriculum that empowers individuals to participate in their own survival using proactive options-based strategies in the face of violence. If you have loved ones in your care, and you want to learn how to maintain safety awareness, this class is for you. The class is open to anyone interested. Please indicate your interest by signing up on the sheet in the narthex so we know how many to expect. This class is free. *Doug Rolando* is a certified, Active Shooter Safety Teacher. He's retired Air Force w/ a background in Security, Missions & Children Ministry. Please see Bev Kokos if you have any questions.

YOUNG ADULTS - To better facilitate communication a Telegram Messenger Group has been set up. We know everyone has busy lives so this should help to keep everyone in the loop and up to date with any future events or casual get togethers. If you're a young adult, (ages 18- 30) you can text your name & number to 830-358-2475 and an invite will be sent to you.

INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED EASTER CANDY IS needed for the Easter Egg hunt and other Easter Day activities. If you would like to contribute, please put your bagged candy in the marked basket in the narthex or bring to the church office. Thank you.

CRAVING FOR COOKING... Saturday, April 1st from 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Come join us in the church gym as we continue to chase the flavors of the *A Legacy of Treasured Recipes* cookbook! Let's celebrate Spring! **Saturday Menu Spring Mix Lineup:** Come try out Carolyn Friedle's Avocado Senegalese Soup, Joyce Warren's Ham & Cheese Sandwiches, & Virginia Axtell's Lemon Poppy Seed Loaf. All ages welcome. Children need to be supervised by parent/adult. **Laughter is Brightest where Food is Best!** If you have any questions, please contact Adrienne Salinas.

PASTOR RICHARD MITTWEDE/UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AUSTIN: A group is going to participate in a Sunday Worship Service and Meal at University Lutheran on Sunday, April 2nd. We will provide the meal for about 20 students as we worship and share with them beginning at 5:00pm in Austin. If you wish to participate in this endeavor, please contact Robin Mittwede or Kevin Rabenaldt. Pastor Mittwede was a member of Mt. Calvary in his youth and was a guest pastor during our 100th Anniversary Celebration last year.

BRASS POLISHING – The Altar Guild will be polishing brass on Saturday, April 1st, at 9:00am. All ladies of the congregation are invited!

THE AGAPE MINISTRY needed items: canned vegetables, canned fruit, peanut butter, jelly, mac & cheese, tomato sauce/pasta sauce, canned meat, soup, rice, dry beans (1–2-pound bags). Other needs are pasta, cereal, fresh or frozen meat, crackers, laundry detergent, hygiene items.

CHRISTIAN ASSISTANCE MINISTRY (CAM) most needed items: Men's belts. Questions? Contact Sarah Sutton at skory@cam-sa.org or Cathy DeVries at 210-653-0602.

ANIMAL DEFENSE LEAGUE CURRENT NEEDS: Blankets (no comforters or hand towels), newspapers, regular size towels, empty medicine bottles (remove label), Dog Treats, Canned Cat Food, Canned Dog Food, Bottles, KMR (1st step), Puppy Esbilac, Puppy pads, Miracle Nipples, Food scales, Heating pads, and Warming discs. **All food items should be unopened.** Please separate newspapers and empty medicine bottles **into bags**. You can also purchase from the Amazon Wishlist and have it sent directly to ADL.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR – March 26th, "Is God Missing in Action?" Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. John Nunes
Is God "missing in action?" Not if we see things from God's eternal perspective. (John 11)
Times/Stations: 6:00am on WOAI 1200 AM; 9:00am on KAWZ 88.7 FM; or 8:00am on KWED 1580 AM (Seguin).

SACRED CHRISTMAS MUSIC... In observation of The Annunciation of Our Lord, You can listen to sacred Christmas music on Saturday, March 25. Listen at lutheranpublicradio.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, TuneIn, Apple HomePod and the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

March

- 20 Wendy Hankins
Olivia White
- 21 Debra Nitsche
Bill O'Brien
- 22 Rev. Mike Middaugh
- 24 Ella Meissler
Roland Schneider



Lenten Season & Holy Week

In keeping with the heart of our Lutheran theology our theme for the penitential season of Lent for this year will be based on the Lenten Series "Honest Repentance" by Dr. David Maxwell (son of Russell and Vivian Maxwell).

Wednesday Midweek Services

March 22, 29

7:00pm

Maundy Thursday with Holy Communion

April 6th 7:00pm

Good Friday Tenebrae

April 7th 7:00pm

Easter Day Services with Holy Communion

April 9th 8:00am and 11:00am

Breakfast served in the gym between services (Suggested donation \$10)

Easter egg hunt and family activities during this time.

Midweek Lenten Services will be preceded by a meal in the gym beginning at 5:30pm
(Free will offering)

OUR LENTEN MIDWEEK SERMON SERIES - HONEST REPENTANCE

Rev. Dr. David Maxwell, Professor of Systematic Theology, Concordia Seminary St. Louis.

This series consists of six doctrinal sermons exploring the nature of repentance, designed to be preached during mid-week Lenten services. These sermons explore the resonances of the biblical text with other parts of Scripture and with Lutheran doctrine to sketch a picture of what repentance looks like in the Christian life. Repentance starts with being honest before God and with ourselves about who we are. When it comes to sin, everyone has a natural impulse to hide, but repentance means finding the courage to be honest. It also means having faith in the promise of forgiveness. But being honest about faith means recognizing that faith is contested on many sides not only by society, but by our own experiences, and sometimes even by the actions of God himself. Finally, repentance means becoming more human, not less. Because our thoughts, desires, and actions are so linked with sin, it is easy to view repentance as fighting against our humanity as if holiness meant trying to stifle as many of our natural human impulses as possible. But honest repentance recognizes that sin is the thing that stifles our humanity, while repentance results in our natural impulses functioning more as God designed them.