

Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2024



Mount Calvary Ev. Lutheran Church
San Antonio, Texas

We realize that it is difficult for some to stand, or to 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 FOUR

PRELUDE

Stand

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

LSB 474



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re -
 2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter Tell - ing the
 3 Je - sus the vine, We are the branch - es; Life in the
 4 Weep - ing, be gone; Sor - row, be si - lent: Death put a -
 5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er, Gold - en Je -



sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light! Splen - dor, the Lamb, Heav - en for -
 sto - ry to o - pen our eyes; Break - ing our bread, Giv - ing us
 Spir - it the fruit of the tree; Heav - en to earth, Christ to the
 sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright. Cher - u - bim sing: "O grave, be
 ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb, Riv - er of life, Saints and arch -



ev - er! Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
 glo - ry: Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
 peo - ple, Gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
 o - pen!" Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
 an - gels, Sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Refrain
 Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise:



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009

Tune: David N. Johnson, 1922–87

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INVOCATION

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

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

Psalm 124:8

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

Psalm 130:3-4

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

[Luke 18:13]

Kneel/Stand Silence for Reflection

CONFESSION OF SINS

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

ABSOLUTION

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

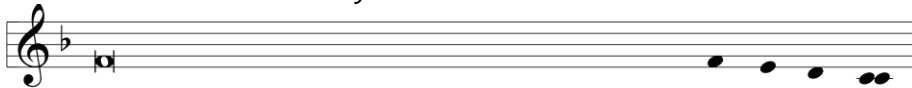
[John 20:19-23]

SERVICE OF THE WORD

pg. 204-207

KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy

Mark 10:47



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; 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; Christ, have mer - cy; 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; Christ, have mer - cy; 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; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 8:26–40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place.²⁷ And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship²⁸ and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah.²⁹ And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot."³⁰ So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?"³¹ And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.³² Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth.³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?"³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus.³⁶ And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?"³⁸ And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.³⁹ And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.⁴⁰ But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 John 1:1-2:2

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.² By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God,³ and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.⁴ Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.⁵ They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them.⁶ We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.¹⁵ Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.¹⁶ So we have come to know and to

believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

John 20:31



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:1–8

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ²Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

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 worshiped 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.

Sit

SERMON HYMN: O Blessed Spring

LSB 595



1 O bless-ed spring, where Word and sign Em - brace us
2 Through sum-mer heat of youth-ful years, Un - cer - tain
3 When au-tumn cools and youth is cold, When limbs their
4 As win - ter comes, as win - ters must, We breathe our
5 Christ, ho - ly Vine, Christ, liv - ing Tree, Be praised for



in - to Christ the Vine: Here Christ en - joins each one to
faith, re - bel - lious tears, Sus - tained by Christ's in - fus - ing
heav - y har - vest hold, Then through us, warm, the Christ will
last, re - turn to dust; Still held in Christ, our souls take
this blest mys - ter - y: That Word and wa - ter thus re -



be A branch of this life - giv - ing Tree.
rain, The boughs will shout for joy a - gain.
move With gifts of beau - ty, wis - dom, love.
wing And trust the prom - ise of the spring.
vive And join us to Your Tree of Life.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, 1953

Tune: English

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Tune: Public domain

SERMON: Abide On the Vine

JOHN 15:1-8

Rev. Craig Meissler

Stand

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

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 would 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. If you have a prayer request, please put it on a "Prayer Request Card" and the ushers will bring it forward with the offering.

Sit

VOLUNTARY

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT****PREFACE**

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

[Colossians 3:1]

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

[Psalm 136]

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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 ~ Holy, Holy, Holy

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. By His death, He has redeemed us from bondage to sin and death, and by His resurrection, He has delivered us into new life in Him.

Grant us to keep the Feast in sincerity and truth, faithfully eating His body given into death and drinking His life's blood poured out for our salvation until we pass through death to the promised land of life eternal.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

**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 OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

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."

PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God*

John 1:29



C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;

O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

LSB 712 Seek Ye First

1 O bless-ed spring, where Word and sign Em - brace us
 2 Through sum-mer heat of youth-ful years, Un - cer - tain
 3 When au-tumn cools and youth is cold, When limbs their
 4 As win-ter comes, as win-ters must, We breathe our
 5 Christ, ho - ly Vine, Christ, liv - ing Tree, Be praised for

in - to Christ the Vine: Here Christ en - joins each one to
 faith, re - bel - lious tears, Sus - tained by Christ's in - fus - ing
 heav - y har - vest hold, Then through us, warm, the Christ will
 last, re - turn to dust; Still held in Christ, our souls take
 this blest mys - ter - y: That Word and wa - ter thus re -

be A branch of this life - giv - ing Tree.
 rain, The boughs will shout for joy a - gain.
 move With gifts of beau - ty, wis - dom, love.
 wing And trust the prom - ise of the spring.
 vive And join us to Your Tree of Life.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, 1953

Tune: English

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Tune: Public domain

LSB 711 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us



1 Sav - ior, like a shep - herd lead us; Much we
 2 We are Yours; in love be - friend us, Be the
 3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, Poor and
 4 Ear - ly let us seek Your fa - vor, Ear - ly



need Your ten - der care. In Your pleas - ant pas - tures
 guard - ian of our way; Keep Your flock, from sin de -
 sin - ful though we be; You have mer - cy to re -
 let us do Your will; Bless - ed Lord and on - ly



feed us, For our use Your fold pre - pare.
 fend us, Seek us when we go a - stray.
 lieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 Sav - ior, With Your love our spir - its fill.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have



bought us; we are Yours. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 chil - dren when we pray. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 let us turn to You. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 loved us, love us still. Bless - ed Je - sus,



bless - ed Je - sus, You have bought us; we are Yours.
 bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to You.
 bless - ed Je - sus, You have loved us, love us still.

Text: Hymns for the Young, 1836, 4th ed., London, alt.

Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816-68

Text and tune: Public domain

LSB 611 Chief of Sinners Though I Be



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His
2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, High - er than the
3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm to heal the
4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in
5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford By Your Spir - it



blood for me, Died that I might live on high,
heav'ns a - bove, Deep - er than the depths of sea,
wound - ed heart, Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,
all to me; All my wants to Him are known,
and Your Word! When my way - ward heart would stray,



Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
Last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty! Love that found me—
Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to
All my sor - rows are His own. He sus - tains the
Keep me in the nar - row way; Grace in time of



to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.
walk with God In the way that E - noch trod.
hid - den life Safe with Him from earth - ly strife.
need sup - ply While I live and when I die.

Text: William McComb, 1793–1873, alt.

Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820–1901

Text and tune: Public domain

LSB 540 Christ, the Word of God Incarnate



1 Christ, the Word of God in - car - nate, Lord and Son of
2 Christ, the liv - ing bread from heav - en, Food for bod - y,
3 Christ, the shoot that springs tri - um - phant From the stump of
4 Christ, our good and faith - ful shep - herd, Watch - ing all Your



A - bra - ham; Christ, the ra - diance of the Fa - ther,
food for soul; Christ, the man - na dai - ly giv - en,
Jes - se's tree; Christ, true vine, You nur - ture branch - es
lambs and sheep; Christ, the gate that guards the sheep - fold,



Per - fect God, the great I AM; Christ, the light, You
Nour - ish, strength - en, make us whole. Feed us with the
To bear fruit a - bun - dant - ly. Graft us in - to
Nev - er - fail - ing vig - il keep. When we stray, Good



shine un - van - quished, Light and life You bring to all; Light our
 food of heav - en, Fore - taste of the feast to be; Quench our
 You, O Sav - ior; Prune our hearts so we re - main Fruit - ful
 Shep - herd, seek us, Find us, lift us, bear us home; Lamb of



path with Your own pres - ence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.
 thirst with liv - ing wa - ter Spring - ing up e - ter - nal - ly.
 branch - es in Your vine - yard Till e - ter - nal life we gain.
 God, our shep - herd, keep us; Let us hear Your voice a - lone.

5 Christ, the way that leads unfailing
 To the Father's home on high,
 Christ, the truth that frees the captive,
 Christ, the life that cannot die.
 Mediator to the Father,
 Sacrifice and great High Priest:
 Lead us to Your heav'nly mansions,
 There to share Your wedding feast.

△ 6 Christ, the Alpha and Omega,
 Christ, the firstborn from the dead,
 Christ, the life and resurrection,
 Christ, the Church's glorious head:
 Praise and thanks and adoration
 And unending worship be
 To the Father and the Spirit
 And to You eternally.

Text: Steven P. Mueller, 1964
 Tune: Columbian Harmony, 1825, Cincinnati
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Stand

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

LSB 211

C 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in lead the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

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.

BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION

P Let us bless the Lord.

[Psalm 103:1]

C Thanks be to God.

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.

Numbers 6:24-26

C Amen.

Please Remain Standing for the Recessional Hymn

RECESSIONAL HYMN: Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise



1 Thine the a - men Thine the praise Al - le -
 2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly Thine the
 3 Thine the tru - ly Thine the yes Thine the
 4 Thine the king - dom Thine the prize Thine the
 5 Thine the glo - ry in the night No more



lu - ias an - gels raise Thine the ev - er - last - ing head
 prom - ise let there be Thine the vi - sion Thine the tree
 ta - ble we the guest Thine the mer - cy all from Thee
 won - der full sur - prise Thine the ban - quet then the praise
 dy - ing on - ly light Thine the riv - er Thine the tree



Thine the break - ing of the bread Thine the glo - ry Thine the
 All the earth on bend - ed knee Gone the nail - ing gone the
 Thine the glo - ry yet to be Then the ring - ing and the
 Then the jus - tice of Thy ways Thine the glo - ry Thine the
 Then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly Then the ho - ly ho - ly



sto - ry Thine the har - vest then the cup Thine the
 rail - ing Gone the plead - ing gone the cry Gone the
 sing - ing Then the end of all the war Thine the
 sto - ry Then the wel - come to the least Then the
 ho - ly Cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee Thine the



vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.
 sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.
 liv - ing Thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.
 won - der all in - creas - ing at Thy feast at Thy feast.
 splen - dor Thine the bright - ness on - ly Thee on - ly Thee.

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009

Tune: Carl F. Schalk, 1929

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POSTLUDE

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

- Presiding Minister: Rev. Craig Meissler
 Organist: Rev. Jack Goldberger
 Elders: Jeff Harwood Steve Melancon Robert Axtell
 Ushers: Steve Melancon Martin Aguilar
 Matt Wegner Wally Mencke
 Greeters: Judy Hanson Judy Ganoza

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 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 in the 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 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. Parents can also use it when quieting a child or changing a diaper. The service can be heard in the nursery. **Activity bags are** available for your child(ren) in the narthex. 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.

MIDWEEK STUDIES

Tuesday Morning Class | *Tues* | 10:00-11:30am {Parish Hall} Immediately following Matins (10:00am)

We are studying *The Great Deceiver*. Materials are provided.

Men's Study | 1st & 3rd **Wednesdays** | 6:00pm {Will meet at the church gym patio}

Contact Matt Wegner.

Men's Study | 1st & 3rd *Saturdays* | 8:00-9:30am {Parish Hall} The Gospel of John

This study is being led by Daniel Ochoa.

Women's Study | 3rd *Mon* | 7:30-8:30pm {Meets at members' homes}

Contact Shirley Wille for more information.

Women's Study | 2nd & 4th *Mon* | 6:00-7:30pm {Library} All ladies are invited.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP SERVICES continue to be live streamed and archived on our website. Bible class/Sunday school for all ages is at 8:45am. Sunday service is at 10:00am.

PRAYERS – Brett Roberts, Vivian Maxwell, Deb Miller, Lamar Gillian at home following surgery, Liz Willis, Phil Glaspy, Christine Prinz, Cindy Boynton, Debbie Kuehling, Donna Peterson, Sharon and David Loeffler, Susan Gary, Sonya Dugi, Mark Marty, Dave Weller (son of Sue Weller), our home-bound members: Joe Ann Lenn, Karen Price, June Rehmann, Sue & Raymond Robel.

FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TODAY to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for his many blessings by Marilyn Marshall in honor of those who have passed away.

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 of 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 a date and time with one of the pastors.

OUR TUESDAY MORNING MATINS SERVICES ARE NOW STREAMING ONLINE. For those who may wish to watch from home, the 10:00am Matins service will now be available online via our website, along with our other services.

TODAY at the end of our worship service, we will be hearing a ministry moment from Thomas Ibraheem and his wife Nadeen about the Christians of the Holy Land. They are part of Holy Land Christian Solidarity Cooperative and have visited hundreds of Lutheran Churches as part of their ministry. After the service we will be hosting, in the Parish Hall, a display of handmade olive wood religious articles from Bethlehem available for purchase. These carvings include olivewood Nativity sets, crosses, Christmas ornaments, candle holders, angels and many other religious crafts that could make a nice wedding, baptism, confirmation, Easter and Christmas gifts. The carvings are handmade by Christian families from Bethlehem who rely on it for their daily bread. More than 70% of the Christian Community in the Holy Land depend upon tourism as their only source of income. For decades those

Christians have been enduring many hardships as tourism in Bethlehem has plummeted and access to other sources of income has been sharply restricted due to the ongoing conflict, the wars, the thirty-six-foot wall built around Bethlehem, the COVID-19 pandemic, and nowadays the catastrophic ongoing war. Due to this, tourists are afraid and unable to visit the Holy Land. This made it very difficult for the Christian families to find their daily bread and forced them to immigrate and flee their homeland since they lost their source of income. The Christian population of the Holy Land was 30% in the last century, today it is less than 1%. If it continues like this, in few years we will find no Christians in the land of Christ, which could cause tragic consequences to our faith and holy sites.

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 NEEDS ARE men’s jeans, little boys clothing, large reusable shopping bags (bigger than grocery bags), people/groups to serve at CAM on Saturdays, weekly volunteers, monetary donations.

ANIMAL DEFENSE LEAGUE CURRENT NEEDS: Blankets (no comforters), newspapers, regular size towels (no hand 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.**

THE LUTHERAN HOUR – May 5th, "Rejoicing On the Way" Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. John Nunes God empowers His people to share the Gospel with those they meet along the way. (Acts 8:28-39) Times/Stations: 6:00am on WOAI 1200 AM; 9:00am on KAWZ 88.7 FM; or 8:00am on KWED 1580 AM (Seguin).

LUTHERAN WORSHIP SERIES...The Kyrie, The Sanctus, The Pax Domini, The Agnus Dei, The Nunc Dimittis...Why do Lutherans worship the way they do? Issues, Etc., a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL, recently completed a series with Dr. Arthur Just, author of "Heaven on Earth: The Gifts of Christ in the Divine Service." You can listen to this six-part series at issuesetc.org/classicalworship.

Giving:	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>YTD</u>
	\$72,895	\$58,478	\$85,503	\$216,877
Expenses:	\$79,810	\$84,728	\$65,778	\$230,317

February Expenses include Organ Loan payoff of \$16,500

Giving: Holy Week - \$30,523 **April 7th** - \$10,609 **April 14th** - \$10,865 **April 21st** - \$13,922

Budget: Yearly: \$857,247 Monthly: \$71,437 Weekly: \$16,485

Quarterly Giving Statements will be generated in 2024.

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY 10:00am – 136

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS – April 28, 2024

Today	8:30am	Fellowship / Coffee
	8:45am	Sunday school / Adult Bible class
	10:00am	Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
Monday	5:30pm	Board of Education
Tuesday	10:00am	Matins {Sanctuary – please enter at Parish Hall doors}
		Followed by Tuesday Morning Class {Parish Hall}
Wednesday	12:30pm	Mary-Martha Guild
	10:00am	Quilting
	11:00am	Braille #11
Thursday	6:0pm	Men’s Bible Study {gym patio}
	10:00am	Braille #2
	6:30pm	Choir Practice
Saturday	8:00am	Men’s Bible Study
Next Sun	8:30am	Fellowship / Coffee
	8:45am	Sunday school / Adult Bible class
	10:00am	Worship Service w/ Holy Communion

THIS WEEK’S BIRTHDAYS

April

28 David Timmons

29 Mark Van Dyke

May

6 Anna Hansmann

8 Ann McNeel

9 Lilo Strait



MOUNT CALVARY STAFF

Craig Meissler, Pastor Mike Middaugh, Pastor

David Thompson, Property Manager

Susan Melancon, Office Manager

Sheryl Jones, Bookkeeper

Janice Moore, Office Assistant

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-12:00pm