

## FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS – DECEMBER 30, 2018

**What is the Divine Service?** If you are new to Calvary, you may have never heard the term ‘Divine Service.’ As Lutherans, we believe that this hour of ‘worship’ is not based on our service to God, but His *divine* service to us. For a basic summary of what we believe is here occurring, please read hymn #602, “The Gifts Christ Freely Gives,” in our hymnal.

+ *Our Christian Communion Statement* +

The **Sacrament of the Altar** is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ for us Christians to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins, as instituted by Christ Himself. The Scriptures teach Christians to commune together at the Lord’s Table, dependent on three presuppositions:

- Proper discernment of the bodily presence of Christ (1 Cor. 11:27-29)
- Unity of doctrine and confession (Rom. 16:17; 1 Cor 1:10; Hebr. 13:10)
- A clear conscience toward and love for fellow communicants (Matt. 5:23-24; Rom. 15:5-6);

Therefore, in Christian love and for the safety of all, we ask all who are not yet members of a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregation, or those who refuse to be reconciled with fellow penitents, to refrain from communing until you have spoken with the pastor. *Thank you.*

### \*\*\* ORDER OF SERVICE \*\*\*

#### LITURGY **Divine Service Setting III (p. 184)**

*Insert, Psalm 98:1-4; (antiphon: Isaiah 52:10)*

**Gathering Hymn:** 389, “Let All Together Praise Our God”

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** 519, “In His Temple Now Behold Him”

**Distribution Hymns:** 386, “Now Sing We Now Rejoice”

390, “Let Us All With Gladsome Voice”

938, “In Peace and Joy I Now Depart”

#### \*\*\* SERVING AND ASSISTING TODAY \*\*\*

8:00: Elder: Steve Baker; Ushers: Steve Robertson, Joe Baker, Jim Foerster, Ken Jones

Acolyte: Ben Baker

10:30: Elder: Steve White; Ushers: Chris Wilson, Andrew Kovachevich, Dan Fehrman

Acolyte: Aaron Trenery                      Counters: Debbie Kufeld, Dan & Lori Compton

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God.

+ *In Preparation for the Divine Service* +

*During the week, the household ought meditate upon the proclamation of the Sunday prior and, late in the week (perhaps Friday and Saturday), familiarize itself with the focus of the Sunday to come. Thus,*

**Next Sunday’s readings: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12**

**Next Sunday’s chief hymn: 397, “As With Gladness Men of Old”**

*All are encouraged – perhaps on Saturday night or early Sunday morning – to make use of “Christian Questions with their Answers” (Section 4 of the Small Catechism), prepared by Martin Luther for those who intend to go to the Sacrament. Also, individual Confession and Absolution is available each week by appointment.*

### \*\*\* THIS WEEK’S ACTIVITIES \*\*\*

Today: **Divine Service with Holy Communion** ..... **8:00 & 10:30 AM**

Bible Class and Sunday School..... 9:15 AM

Tue.: *New Years Day – Office Closed*

Sat.: SS Teachers Meeting..... 8:00 AM

Ladies’ *Book of Concord* Study..... 9:00 AM

Sun.: **Divine Service with Holy Communion** ..... **8:00 & 10:30 AM**

*Installation of officers during services*

Bible Class and Sunday School..... 9:15 AM

### \*\*\* CHRISTIAN EDUCATION \*\*\*

*We welcome all members and visitors to join with us in learning the life-giving doctrine of Christ!*

*We hope to see you in one or more of the classes below!*

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY** Our classes resume this morning, as we jump back into our study on the Epistle to the Hebrews. We conclude chapter 7’s focus on Jesus, high priest after the order of Melchizedek, and – time permitting – begin chapter 8’s introduction to ‘the better covenant’! Join us this morning, 9:20, in the downstairs study hall!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES** Classes return to their normal schedule this morning, as the children study narratives of the Christmas season (we don’t want to rush by them too quickly!). This morning’s lesson is “An Angel Visits Joseph.” Join us, beginning at 9:20, in the downstairs children’s gathering area.

**CATECHISM (CONFIRMATION) CLASSES** No Wednesday class this week; please bring back your completed ‘mid-term assessments’ when we meet again on Wednesday, Jan. 9, 7:00-8:15! Thanks!... and enjoy the remainder of this Christmas season!

**CALVARY BOOK CLUB** Options for the next book are on display in the narthex. Please preview them and give Pastor your opinion or alternative suggestion/request. Thanks!

**SCRIPTURE IN CINEMA?** Would you be interested in studying the movies’ depiction of Scripture? If so, please see the ‘blurb’ in the announcements section, or contact Pastor for more details.

**BOOK OF CONCORD STUDY GROUPS** How does the Book of Concord teach us our confession of the faith for daily life in a fallen world? All are invited and encouraged to benefit from meeting every third Saturday in the Gathering Room with one of the following groups:

**Ladies:** Our next study is *this Saturday, January 5, 9:00-10:30*. We begin 2019 with a look at Article VII, “The Holy Supper of Christ.” Remember, the Formula of Concord was written to settle disputes arising among ‘the teachers of the Augsburg Confession.’ How could there be dispute about the Supper?! All ladies are invited to join us in the Gathering Room.

**Men:** Our next study is scheduled for *Saturday, January 12, 9:00-10:30*. We continue to discuss Luther’s explanation of the Ten Commandments. We begin 2019 by picking up on the Third Commandment and beginning the Fourth. All men are invited to join us in the Gathering Room.

**\*\*\*ANNOUNCEMENTS\*\*\***

**Welcome in the name of Christ!** Whether you are a visitor with us this morning or a member of Calvary, we would appreciate you filling out the pew registry located toward the center aisle. Visitors are also asked to please read the introduction to the Sacrament of the Altar as found inside the front cover of the bulletin. *Thank you.*

**NEW YEARS EVE SERVICE** A Reminder that there will not be a New Years Eve service this year. We look forward to the Festival of Epiphany services at 8:00 & 10:30am, next Sunday, January 6.

**OFFICER INSTALLATION** Those who will be serving Calvary in 2019 as congregational officers or board members will be installed next Sunday, January 6th. The Rite of Installation is observed at both services, following the Prayer of the Church. Thank you to all who have completed time of service, and thank you to all who plan to serve Calvary as officers/board members in 2019.

**NEW MEMBER RECEPTION** On January 20<sup>th</sup> between services, we will have a reception to welcome our new members that have joined Calvary during the past year. If you are a member who joined Calvary this past year, more information is being mailed to you regarding this reception and the Rite of Fellowship to welcome you. We look forward to the annual opportunity to collectively and ‘publicly’ welcome new members!

**JR. YOUTH – SAVE THE DATE (TENTATIVELY)!** Families of Calvary with children, age 12 or under, are invited to saved the date of Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:00, for a potential “Snow Day.” In years past, parents, children, and the whole family have gathered at Calvary at 1:00 and headed to Wing Park to have some fun sledding and playing in the snow (or have enjoyed “Indoor Winter Activities” at church if the weather didn’t cooperate). An entirely new Board of Christian Education will have a bit of a learning curve, so please bear with us in looking ahead to this event. For now, save the date! Thanks!

**SCRIPTURE IN CINEMA?** Pastor is always seeking new teaching opportunities and would like to offer the opportunity for periodic ‘Bible’ movie dates. What a great way to study – by critically evaluating movie content! Interested? (Schedule would be based on interest.) Contact Pastor.

**THANK YOU!** Many thanks to the congregation for the many prayers, cards, gifts, and well-wishes this Christmas season. What a blessing for our family to be part of Calvary! God continue to bless us all and keep us all in the true faith in this year ahead that He has prepared for us! – *Pastor Bestul and family.*

**SANCTUARY UPDATE** Thanks to the whole congregation for your patience since work began in earnest in October! The committee will meet the first week after Epiphany to finalize plans for the final ‘phase’ of work to be completed or contracted. Though hands-on work can be completed rather quickly, the project’s final dates will depend on a few key contractors. Certainly, we’ll need to patiently await furniture and stained glass. Perhaps the next ‘big item’ will be the altar rail. We’ll keep you posted! If you have questions along the way, please don’t hesitate to ask Pastor Bestul or Chuck Traugott – we’re happy to keep open the line of communication!



**CALVARY  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

535 N. McLean Blvd.  
Elgin, IL 60123  
847-741-5433

[www.clce.org](http://www.clce.org)

Pastor  
Rev. Mark C. Bestul  
[pastor@clce.org](mailto:pastor@clce.org)