

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT – MARCH 15, 2020

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 84:1-4; (antiphon: Psalm 84:5)

(during Lent, the opening hymn is omitted to focus on the Confession of Sins and Absolution)

HYMN OF THE DAY: 823, “May God Bestow On Us His Grace”

Distribution Hymns: 429, “We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died”
524, “How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds”
684, “Come Unto Me, Ye Weary”



***** SERVING AND ASSISTING TODAY *****

8:00: Elder: Steve Baker; Ushers: Ken Jones, Quinton Reh, Jim Foerster, Joe Baker
Acolyte: Jed Koss

10:30: Elder: Dean Spacone; Ushers: Chris Wilson, Dan Fehrman
Acolyte: Aaron Trenery

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by Chuck & Tracy Wiskirchen, for their 36th wedding anniversary.

+ *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 42:14-21; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

Next Sunday’s chief hymn: 849, “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”

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

Wed.: **Lenten Services**..... **4:30 & 7:00 PM**
 Dinner.....5:30 PM
 Confirmation Class during 5:30 dinner hour
 Choir Practice after 7:00pm service

Thur: Service Guild..... 12:30 PM

Sat.: *Men’s Book of Concord*..... 9:00 AM

Sun.: **Divine Service with Holy Communion**..... **8:00 & 10:30 AM**
 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 This morning, we continue the final chapter of 1 Timothy, picking up with our discussion of vocational duties in “unfair” situations in life. Join us for the discussion, 9:20, in the fellowship hall downstairs!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES Children continue their studies in the coming of the Messiah. This morning’s lesson: “A Weather Wonder.” With such fear in our land over the ‘storms of life’, what a wonderful opportunity to be reminded of Jesus’ authority over the waves: “Peace, be still!” Children gather downstairs at 9:15.

CATECHISM (CONFIRMATION) CLASSES This morning at 9:20, students continue the elder-led studies in Catechism memorization. Wednesday classes continue their Lenten schedule, 5:45-6:30, as we begin our discussion on Confession and Absolution.

CALVARY BOOK CLUB Our next book, *Atheism to Christianity*, is ready for pick-up in the office. Please leave payment for the book with the church secretary. Enjoy!

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:

Men: Our next study is this *Saturday, March 21, 9:00-10:15*, as we move into the Apostles’ Creed. All men are welcome to join us!

Ladies: Our next study is *Saturday, March 28, 9:00-10:30*, in the Gathering Room. We wrap up our focus on Formula of Concord, Article X, “Church Practices.” All ladies are welcome to join us!

❖ **“CALVARY AT DAILY PRAYER”** The weekly guide for self-study is available on the small table in the narthex. Take one each Sunday and join the congregation in daily prayer! *Suggestions, requests for the weekly guide are always taken; Pastor is happy to hear your thoughts and work on implementation.*

*****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 back cover of the bulletin. *Thank you.*

THE CHURCH IN THE FACE OF PESTILENCE With Coronavirus in our land, the populace can be very uncertain and fearful. In the realization of humanity's frailty, we do well to remember that Jesus is not 'only' Redeemer, but also Lord over creation. Thus, the Church continues to confess, "Our help is in the name of the Lord." It's a time to repent of our fears and call upon the Name of Him who says, "Be still and know that I am God." Thus, we come to His altar. As the Church gathers, she is sympathetic toward and prays for those unable to gather, stricken with illness or with fear. In compassion, we take basic precautions to care especially for the elderly, most at risk in the weeks to come. An email has been sent detailing the precautions we are taking; if you did not receive it, but would like a copy, please talk with the pastor. *Most importantly, if you have had a fever any time in the past week, please – for the sake of the vulnerable among us – stay home from the next week's services.* Also, if you choose to self-exclude from the weekly gathering, please keep in contact with the pastor. Jesus is Lord over life and death; throughout this pandemic, and after it, he will bring His Church out of death and to eternal life.

FINAL LENTEN DINNER In the face of Coronavirus, as civil authorities discourage "unnecessary" large gatherings, the final two Wednesday dinners have been cancelled; this Wednesday will be this year's final Lenten dinner. The food 'theme' is *Italian*. You may still sign up to bring a dish or dessert. We ask they be brought downstairs by 5:15. Please consider that the donated dishes will collectively serve approx. 70 people. *Thank you* to all who have helped this season!

EASTER LILIES The sign-up sheet for purchasing an Easter lily to beautify the sanctuary is now out. The cost is \$13, and we ask that plants be taken home following the 10:30am Easter service, or arrangements to pick up that Monday morning can be made with the secretary. Please leave payment on the secretary's desk. Order deadline is March 22nd. *Thank you!*

"MAKING THE CASE CONFERENCE 2020" The Issues, Etc. "Making the Case" Conference is again at Concordia University, Chicago! Friday, June 12 and Saturday, June 13. If we have enough interest, group transportation can be planned (please sign up at the narthex table). Register by March 31 for the 'early bird discount'. For more information and to register, visit issues.org/conference-2020. *Thank you!*

THANK YOU The Donald Jensen family would like to say thank you to Pastor Bestul and all the members who were able to attend Hattie Jensen's funeral. Also, a big thank you to the Calvary Service Guild, and to the Baker family for their beautiful song ensemble. "Our mother would have been very pleased with the nice service and reception afterward." Sincerely, Debbie Brener & family, Donna Dopke & family, and Donald Jensen.



+ LENTEN MIDWEEK SERIES III +
Wednesday, March 18 4:30pm & 7:00pm
Dinner 5:30



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CHURCH**

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