



June 2020

Mt. Calvary Messenger
Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church
1372 W. Fremont Street
Galesburg, IL 61401
309 342-7083



June 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Bible Study Online	4	5	6 Services 4pm; 5pm
7 Worship Service Online 10am Services 8am; 9am; 10am; 11am; 12pm; 1pm Elder's Meeting	8	9	10 Bible Study Online	11	12	13 Services 4pm; 5pm
14 Worship Service Online 10am Services 8am; 9am; 10am; 11am; 12pm; 1pm	15	16	17 Bible Study Online	18	19	20 Services 4pm; 5pm
21 Worship Service Online 10am Services 8am; 9am; 10am; 11am; 12pm; 1pm <i>Happy Father's Day!</i>	22	23	24 Bible Study Online	25	26	27 Services 4pm; 5pm
28 Worship Service Online 10am Services 8am; 9am; 10am; 11am; 12pm; 1pm	29	30		<p>Please continue to view online services for hymns and full sermon</p> <hr/> <p>Bible Studies may post on Wed. or Thurs. depending on the taping day</p>		

HAPPY Birthday!

1-Mason Carlson
1- Tony Robertson
1- Jennifer Teske
5- Sue Spay
10-Michael Bird
10-Sara Teske
13-Gabriella Marshall
16-Jordan Donnelly
17-Rachelle Lescallett
19-William Burkhardt
23-Brandie Donley
25-Aaron Kugler
26-Joann Folger
27-Janet Laugesen
28-Sherry Kersh
29-Diane Teske

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

1- Brad & Jennifer DeWolfe
5- Brett & Diane Teske
12-Marc & Lori Kugler
14-Brett & Lisa Wolfe
15-Kevin & Lori Engel
17- Christopher & Nelly Clark
18-Steve & Jennifer Baughman
18-Mark & Wendy Havens
27- Les & DeEtte Lindsey

In Our Prayers

Health concerns:

Joyce Wolfe	Dan Brackett
Debra Hughes	Kim Noe
Missy Montgomery	Theresa Clark
Tom England	Walter Walker
Fern Harding	Arlene Hazlett
Janalee Gutierrez	Guy Hood
Peggy LeStarge	Rose Morris
Bev Donley	William Burkhardt
Louis Linnenburger	Anita Reinertsen
Rae Marie- Theresa Clark's mother	
Glenn - Lori Kugler's brother	
Arlene Hazlett's sister Donna Vilardi- battling leukemia	

Others:

Pastor Meeker, Deaconess Lorna and the Kenya Mission
PFC Douglas Havens- deployed in the Middle East
LCpl Kaleb Karssen- stationed at Camp Pendleton, California
Our nation, our world, our leaders, our neighbors
Our healthcare workers: Tom, Mark, Jared, Gabby, Evelyn, Diane, Kathy, Shelly, Deb, Lori, Becca

Baptism Birthdays

6-13 Gabriella Marshall
6-15 Brent Bernett
6-19 Aaron Kugler
6-26 Mina Montgomery

Whoever believes and
is baptized will be
saved. Mark 16:16a



Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

A blessed Father's Day!

We are thankful for our fathers showing us the Christian way.

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The Governor has included churches as an essential service and we are thankful for that! We are holding small services on Saturdays and Sundays until the guidelines are changed. If you wish to attend a service, please call or email the church office to see what times are available. We will find a way to accommodate anyone who wants to return to worship in the Lord's house.

If you are in a risk category that delays your return, we will continue to offer the regular online Sunday service through our Mt. Calvary Lutheran Facebook, Mt. Calvary Lutheran You-tube and mclcgalesburg.org sites. Indeed, because our 30 minute services will necessarily be cut down and have a short homily rather than sermon, we encourage you to use the online Sunday services whether you are able to come or not, even if as devotional material during the week with extra hymns and prayers.

**Things to do when you come to church:

1. Please don't arrive more than 5-10 minutes early for your service. We ask that you only use the double glass doors to enter. The double glass doors will be open, with hand sanitizer available inside the door. If you can't remember what color pew you should be sitting in, there is a list posted on the mailroom doors. Come in, grab a bulletin (placed in a basket at the back of church), and find an empty pew of your assigned color.
2. Please wear a mask (as you are able) when entering and leaving the building. The mask may be taken off during the service if needed since we will be practicing social distancing. (There are a few masks available that Rose made, and they are on the bench in the mailroom if you need one. Thank you Rose!)
3. We ask that when the service has ended, you take one wipe from the provided containers and wipe down your pew and anything that may have been touched so that it will be clean for the next group to enter. There is a trash can at the back of the church where you can dispose of your wipe as you walk out.
4. We will **NOT** be reusing bulletins, so if you don't want to take your bulletin home, please throw it in the recycling bin that is placed by the new member board in the mailroom.
5. Come back at the same time next week! This will be your assigned time slot until something changes!

Congratulations to all our Graduates!

Galesburg High School
Mason Carlson
Emmie Kersh

Knoxville High School

*Meghan Bird– plans to attend Monmouth College and major in Physics

St. Ambrose University

*Jonathan Whittle– Graduating with a Bachelors in Mechanical Engineering



LCMS Stewardship Ministry Newsletter Article – June 2020

The sin of the world is paid for. God's Law has been kept perfectly on our behalf. The prophecies have all been fulfilled. Jesus Christ has finished it all! And that, dear Christians, should fill us with complete confidence in our salvation. Since Jesus has finished all these things in His self-sacrifice, we can be fully certain our sins are forgiven, and we have everlasting life!

St. Paul wrote: "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship." (Rom. 12:1)

We hear the same teaching in 1 Peter. "As you come to him, a living stone, rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves, like living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 2:4-5)

It's the very thing Malachi foretold of the Lord, that He would come and purify His priestly people, that they may offer to Him an offering in righteousness. (Mal. 3:3)

So, what does this mean? In view of God's mercies – that is, because Jesus sacrificed Himself to make us pure, giving His entire self into death – Paul said that we are to sacrifice ourselves entirely to God, offering Him our whole lives. For our Savior did not give Himself for us in part. So, we do not give back to Him in part.

We don't offer ourselves to God just on Sunday mornings or Wednesday evenings, for example. Rather, we give Him our whole selves, all the time. We understand that offering ourselves to God as living sacrifices involves the giving of our time. It requires us to be faithful stewards of the time He has given us. Yes, it means we devote to our Savior all our time. Otherwise we are not sacrificing our whole lives.

You see, God both teaches us, and has graciously qualified us, to present ourselves to Him as living sacrifices – to live as His holy priests, who offer Him acceptable sacrifices through Jesus Christ, all day, every day, in our various callings.

In the passages from Romans and 1 Peter, we hear several examples of Christian self-sacrifice: serving, teaching, encouraging, giving, leading, showing mercy, living peaceably with others, submitting to governing authorities and those over us in the workplace, wives submitting to husbands, husbands honoring wives, showing compassion, and suffering patiently in doing good.

In all these things, and in all our other everyday activities, we sacrifice ourselves by using our time, not just for our own benefit, but also and especially for the well-being of others. Work time, school time, exercise time, study time, mealtime, chore time, recreation and relaxation time, even sleep time – it's all God's gift to us to use for purposes that please and honor Him.

This challenges us to think about the way we spend our time, how we utilize our talents, and the way we spend our treasures. Whatever it is I'm doing, am I doing it "for the Lord"? (Col. 3:23) Am I presenting God a living sacrifice? Am I conducting myself as a holy priest, whose sacrifice is acceptable to God?

Because our Lord sacrificed Himself wholly for us, we offer ourselves wholly to Him as living sacrifices. This is following Jesus in self-sacrifice. By His saving mercy, yes, our sacrifice is acceptable to God. For the sake of Jesus' finished work, God is pleased with us.

“How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.”

The deep passion and care that rings out through those words, certainly stirs the imagination. One can imagine a young suitor going to great lengths to show his beloved the depth of his love lavishly showering attention and care, extravagantly bestowing affection. The mind races. The heart pitter-patters through the possibilities – the candlelight dinners, the roses and chocolates... All charming images to consider, but can such a love as this also be reckless or even destructive? Perhaps, young suitor is a bit over-extravagant selecting a wedding ring. Perhaps, in his zeal young suitor buries our future family in credit card debt. Perhaps, his beloved begins to base her assurance and confidence in said suitor by the volume and expense of his gifts. Something beautiful has gone seriously, even sickeningly, wrong.

As another example of love gone wrong one might consider the family. When a parent is unwilling to force the child to do something good for them, another kind of love has taken over – the self-love that seeks never to be made uncomfortable confronting serious issues. For example, a parent who does not ask their child to do any of the following if they don't want to: eat healthy food; get enough sleep; go to school; go to church and Sunday school; confirmation or midweek; etc. Is the child's church attendance/diet/sleep unimportant or is it simply easier to go along to get along?

Nowadays, Luther would have gotten very low marks. In His Preface to the Small Catechism, he wrote: “Those who refuse to learn (their catechism) are to be told that they are denying Christ and do not belong to Him... not to be admitted to the Sacrament, accepted as sponsors at Baptism, or allowed to exercise Christian liberty in any way... Moreover, their parents and supervisors should refuse them food and drink.” Hardly, the sort of comments one expects to grace the inside of a greeting card this Mother's Day.

There is no love where there is not discipline. The Book of Hebrews (ch.12) says, “*God disciplines those whom He loves, as a loving Father disciplines His children.*” God's discipline teaches us to “*fix our eyes on Jesus*”(Heb.12; Rom.5:3f). God's discipline shows me that no matter how self-important, proud, wealthy, popular, powerful or independent I become, I am nothing without God's hand there to sustain me: “*He opens His hands and satisfies the desires of every living thing*”(Ps.145) and “*apart from Him we can do nothing*”(John15:5).

God disciplines His children, because He loves us and His highest aim is not so much our earthly happiness as our eternal salvation. Remember God sent His own Son to die and rise to make that salvation yours. It stands to reason he would take it very seriously that we not squander that gift, but that He works even behind the hardships and losses and sufferings of life for our eternal benefit and good. Roman says, “*God works all things for the good of those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose.*” That doesn't mean all things will go smoothly. It means in God's wisdom – they will work out for the good of His people – possibly (likely!), in ways that we will never understand or imagine.

Love is not tyrannical. Love is not over-bearing or demeaning. Love is “*patient, kind, not envious, not boastful, not proud, not rude, not self-seeking or easily angered... (1Cor.13)*” But it's equally true that love must involve respect and discipline for a love to be godly. In 1 Samuel 2, Eli the High Priest spoiled his children rotten. His two sons were never disciplined from childhood on by their father. God asked Eli: “*Why do you honor your sons more than me?*” (In other words, why do you care more about your kids' feelings than Mine.) Ultimately, God judged the spoiled behavior of Eli's sons with death – the grief over which killed Eli. Happy will be the home that takes to heart the need for love sometimes to be tough, heeding the words of Proverbs: “*Do not withhold discipline from a child; If you punish him with the rod, he will not die. Punish him with the rod and save his soul from death(23:13).*”

On Mother's Day (May10) and Father's Day (June21), we are thankful for the gift of Christian parents, who cared enough not to indulge our every whim (and there were many!), sharing with us that which is most important for our salvation – a faith solidly grounded in Christ. A Christian parent sees their role - not as their child's best friend - but their parent. God Himself cares for children through parents, which brings tremendous dignity and honor to this station in life. Children honor God by respecting their parents. Christian parents take seriously their role as “masks” for God, those who speak the very Word of God to their children, pray with them, feed them, bring them to the services of God's house, and yes, discipline them.

For Luther, there could be no higher vocation in life than that of wife and mother or husband and father. No other station in life provided such opportunity to “*take up the cross and follow Jesus.*” No other station involved such often thankless and difficult work. If Christ could say that in clothing the naked, feeding the hungry, tending the sick “*what was done for the least of these was done for Him*”, no station more than parent is so often called to live up to those awesome tasks. Of course, none of those works by mom or dad or by anyone else merits salvation before God, but we sure are thankful to God and to our moms and dads!

May God fill our homes with His grace,
Pastor Steve Sommerer