

*This Week At Mt. Calvary:*

TODAY:	CHRISTMAS CANTATA	
	Ensemble Rehearsal.....	8:00 a.m.
	Worship Service with Communion.....	9:00 a.m.
	Sunday School (Education Building).....	10:15 a.m.
	LYF Bible Study (Youth Room) .....	10:15 am.
	Bible Class I (Multipurpose Room) .....	10:15 a.m.
Monday:	Mt. Calvary volunteers at Second Chance .....	10:00 a.m.
	Preschool Chapel (Church).....	10:15 a.m.
	Communion at Monument Hill .....	
Wednesday:	LAST DAY OF PRESCHOOL	
	Bible Class (Multipurpose Room).....	9:30 a.m.
	Advent Service (Church).....	11:00 a.m.
	Advent Lunch (Fellowship House) .....	11:45 a.m.
	Confirmation Class (Fellowship House).....	4:15 a.m.
	Bell Choir Rehearsal (Church).....	6:30 p.m.
Thursday:	Sunday Bulletin Deadline .....	9:00 a.m.
Friday:	Bulletin Assembly (Multipurpose Room).....	12:15 p.m.
	LYF Packing & Party .....	10:00 a.m.
Sunday:	Worship Service with Children’s Church.....	9:00 a.m.
	No Sunday School or Bible Classes	
	<b>Christmas Eve Festival of Lessons and Carols.....</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>

**MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL**

800 N. Franklin St., La Grange, TX 78945

Worship Services: Sundays at 9:00 AM Bible Classes & Sunday School Sundays at 10:15 AM

Rev. Bill Qualman, Pastor

Office: (979) 968-3938 Fax: (979) 968-2918 Email: [pastor@mtcalvary-lcms.org](mailto:pastor@mtcalvary-lcms.org)

Visit us on the web at [www.mtcalvary-lcms.org](http://www.mtcalvary-lcms.org) !

*Our Mission: "Committed to reaching out with the love of Jesus."*

**ABOUT THE COVER:** *St. John wrote that John the Baptist came to bear witness about the true light. John the Baptist believed in God and the coming Savior, and he was sent to tell others about the light that Jesus brings to dispel the darkness of sin. We have a God-given purpose in life as children of God. We are to tell others about the light of God’s forgiveness through Christ Jesus, our Savior.*





**TODAY'S BROADCAST OF THE LUTHERAN HOUR** over Radio Station KBUK (FM 104.9 on Sundays at 7:00 a.m.) is sponsored by the Men's Club.

**OUR WORSHIP LAST WEEK:**

**Attendances:**

Sunday Worship: 179  
Advent Service: 65  
Wed. Bible Class: 10

**Offerings:**

**Our weekly needs: \$5,616.61**  
Home Purposes: \$2,404.00  
Additional Online Giving: \$555.00  
Missions: \$192.00 Bldg Fund: \$145.00

After last week's children's worship presentation, a child asked "Is our program over?" No! The story of Jesus' Advent is never over. We can all continue to tell the story of advent now and on into 2018. Invite a person to worship at our midweek, Sunday and the upcoming special services. Continue to reach out to our members and others. Some may discover their new church home! - The Outreach & Evangelism Board

**TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO SELECT ITEMS FROM THE HAPPY SCRAPPERS CRAFT TABLE.** There are no price tags, just a donation will be appreciated toward further LWR projects. Thanks for your generous support.

**SERVING CHRISTMAS EVE 12/24/17 at 9 AM:**

**Children's Message:**..... Nancy Vasut  
**Acolyte:**..... Brodie Filla  
**Lector:** ..... Becky Weikel  
**Elders:** ..... Harold Streicher, Becky Weikel  
**Head Ushers:** ..... Willie Ahlschlager, August Pietsch  
**Ushers:** ..... Ron Glaiser, OPEN  
**Greeters:** ..... Artie Schultz, OPEN  
**Video:**..... Neal Lochte  
**Sound:** ..... Linda Streicher  
**Altar Guild:** ..... Judy Zuhn

**SERVING CHRISTMAS EVE 12/24/17 at 6:30 PM:**

**Acolyte:**..... Gus Herbrich  
**Lectors:** ..... Randy Albers, Joan Miertschin  
**Elders:** ..... Harold Streicher, Becky Weikel  
**Head Ushers:** ..... Ricky Dunk, Denise Schnell  
**Ushers:** ..... Nick Hensley, Luis Sanchez  
**Greeters:** ..... Luis Sanchez, Hannah Sanchez  
**Video:**..... N/A  
**Sound:** ..... Ralph Streicher  
**Altar Guild:** ..... Judy Zuhn

**SERVING CHRISTMAS DAY 12/25/17 at 9 AM:**

**Acolyte:**..... OPEN

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them, and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**ABSOLUTION:**

**P** Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead, and by the command, of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

(Please be seated.)

**PRELUDE:**..... *“Prelude on Helmsley”* ..... arr. by Carl Klein

*Stand as the cross passes by.*

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN:** ..... *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”* ..... # 357 vs. 1-3

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH FOR WEEK THREE**

**P** We have lit the first two candles, one for hope and one for peace.. Today we light the third candle, the candle of joy. This should be the easy one, because joy is all around us – in the children, the lights, the music, the gathering together. But how often do we let our preparations – or our memories – push joy to the side? Joy is like an underground spring that wells up within us, but joy is also a choice, an attitude. Like a muscle, it needs to be exercised. So today we open ourselves to joy, trusting that God has already planted it in us. All we need to do is give it care and offer it to share.

**C** Loving God, as we enter this Advent season, we open all the dark places in our lives to the healing light of Christ. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you, that we may walk in the light of Christ.

*Acolyte lights three Advent candles while the congregation sings:*

**HYMN:**..... *“The Advent of Our King”* ..... # 331 v. 6

All glory to the Son,  
Who comes to set us free,  
With Father, Spirit, ever one  
Through all eternity.

**GREETING**

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**C** **And also with you.**

*Sit*

**"Of the Father's Love Begotten"  
A Christmas Cantata  
by Gilbert Martin**

Prologue

Anthem:.....“Of the Father's Love Begotten” .....

Narration

Anthem:..... “Messiah Comes, Emmanuel!” .....

Narration

Anthem:..... “What Child is This?” .....

Narration

Anthem:..... “Manger Lullaby” .....

Narration

Anthem:..... “Angels We Have Heard on High” .....

Narration

Anthem:..... “One Holy Night” .....

Narration

Finale:..... “Of the Father's Love Begotten (Reprise)” .....

**COLLECTION OF THE OFFERING**

**PASTOR:** ..... Rev. Bill Qualman  
**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:**..... Laura Gillette  
**STUDENT PIANIST:** ..... Miles Gillette-Bockhorn  
**NARRATORS:** ..... Pastor Qualman, Judy Zuhn  
**ACOLYTE:** ..... Travis Stokes  
**ELDERS:** ..... Harold Streicher, Becky Weikel  
**HEAD USHERS:** ..... Robert Boening, OPEN  
**USHERS:** ..... Beverly Albers, Lee Herbrich  
**GREETERS:** ..... Genelda Pavlik, OPEN  
**VIDEO TECHNICIAN:** ..... Cheryl Roitsch  
**SOUND TECHNICIAN:** ..... Linda Streicher  
**ALTAR GUILD:** ..... Judy Zuhn

**CHANCEL FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God by Annie Cook in memory of her husband Harry Cook.

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS** are placed to the glory of God by Bill & Vernell Sagebiel; by Paul & Diana Mikulin; by B. J. Ullrich; by Don & Kathy Pietsch; by Randy & Beverly Albers; by Paul & Geraldine Teinert; by Mary & James Walker.

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS** are placed in loving memory of Eugelyn Bing, by Gladys Mach; Roland & Elna Bohot, by Harvey Bohot; Anita Terry Terrell Dippel, by Harvey Dippel; our fathers, Edward Fischer & Jimmie Lehmann, by Daniel & Brenda Fischer & family; her mother Gloria Fordyce and brother James Fordyce, by Harold & Linda Streicher; our brothers-in-law Tom Hardaway and Don Doctor, by Ralph, Harold & Linda Streicher; Sheila Kappler & Rachel Midgett, by Garland & Stell Midgett; Werner & Louise Koopmann, by Johnny & Irene Koopmann, Wayne Koopmann, Martin & Karen Koopmann, and Judy Zuhn; Eugene L. Mach, by Gladys Mach; Carol Moreland, John Pecora & Coy Bernshausen, by Betty Pecora; Ann & Miles Moss, by Joanne, Laura and Miles Gillette; Elva and Paul Nibbelink, by Joanne, Laura and Miles Gillette; Edwin & Sidonia Pietsch and Edgar & Lydia Schimank, by August & Martha Pietsch; our parents, Tex & Lee Roitsch and Sonny Barosh, by Cheryl Roitsch & Mick Barosh; Hollie Schneider, by Glenn & Jane Schneider; Sheri & Bubba & Brandon Schneider, by Glenn & Jane Schneider; our parents Rev. Walter & Elisabeth Streicher, by Ralph, Harold & Linda Streicher; our departed sainted family members, by Ralph Streicher; Katie Teinert, by Lee & Janice Teinert; Paul Teinert, Susan Kana, Adam Kana, & Charles Hall, by Gladys Teinert; my mother Anita A. Vanek and wife Myrtle “Myrt” Vanek, by Robert G. Vanek; Bob Wedd & Tim Zawerucha, by Verne & Karen Fitch; Jim Zuhn, by Judy Zuhn; William & Hilma Zuhn, by Judy Zuhn.

**Thank you** to the Ensemble members for all of their hard work on this cantata: Randy Albers, Brenda Fischer, Karen Fitch, Joanne Gillette, Emma Herbrich, Neal Lochte, Donald Roensch, Hannah Sanchez, Lorri Sanchez, Geraldine Teinert, Faye Winkler, and Clayton Wolf.

The LYF is having a special **CHRISTMAS BIBLE STUDY** (“Fear Not”) today with refreshments. If you have not had an opportunity to be with us, why not come this week?



let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.” ... For pastors, that they may preach the whole counsel of God, centered in the Holy Gospel, and focused upon Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For missionaries around the world, and for mission opportunities in our own neighborhoods, that each of us may give an account of the hope that is in us, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For this congregation, as we bear one another’s burdens, that we may love others, as Christ loved us first, and for the unity of the Spirit, in the bond of peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For repentance, that we may individually, and as a congregation, examine our beliefs and life, according to God’s holy Word, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For those who share special gifts with us in this season of expectation, especially our choir and musicians, that God would bless them with joy in their serving, and that we may give thanks to God for the blessings He gives us through them, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For all who labor, watch, and work on behalf of others, that they may be diligent in their watching, faithful in their service, courageous in danger, and competent in emergencies, meeting the needs of others with confidence and compassion, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For those who are sick, that God would grant healing to their bodies, and strength to bear their infirmities with patience, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For those who mourn, that in their time of sorrow they would not lose hope, but rely on God’s promise that He will never leave them or forsake them, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For those who rejoice in the rich blessings of God, especially those celebrating birthdays, and those celebrating anniversaries, that they may always remember the Giver of every gift, and give Him heartfelt thanks, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the incarnation of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His first coming, in the flesh at Bethlehem, we thank You for the forgiveness You deliver to us, as Jesus comes to us today in Your Word and Sacraments. During this season of repentance and hope, prepare us for His second coming on the Last Day, so that we may eternally dwell in Your presence; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +**

**PREFACE**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**+ THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION +**

**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**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **Amen.**

**AGNUS DEI**

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 HYMNS**

.....“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People” ..... # 347

.....“Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding” ..... # 345

*Stand*

**NUNC DIMITTIS**

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All