

This Week At Mt. Calvary:

Sunday: Worship Service with Children’s Church.....9:00 a.m.
 No Sunday School or Bible Classes
Christmas Eve Service6:30 p.m.

Monday: **Christmas Day Service9:00 a.m.**
 Preschool and Church Office Closed.....
 Communion at Care Inn.....

Wednesday: Preschool Closed
 Games Day (Fellowship House) 2:00 p.m.
 Newsletter Assembly..... 2:00 p.m.

Thursday: Bulletin Deadline9:00 a.m.

Friday: Bulletin Assembly12:15 p.m.

Sunday: New Year’s Eve Service with Communion.....9:00 a.m.
 Sunday School (Education Building).....10:15 a.m.
 Bible Class (Multipurpose Room).....10:15 a.m.
 No LYF Bible Study



ABOUT THE COVER: *We often fret over God’s ways. We seek to understand God’s actions, even though we believe “that for those who love God all things work together for good” (Romans 8:28). Mary is to have a Son. He “will be called holy – the Son of God” (Luke 1:35). Mary asks, “How will this be?” and hears, “Nothing will be impossible with God” (vv. 34, 37). God’s love for us is beyond our understanding. Thanks be to God for His love!*

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

Visit us on the web at www.mtcalvary-lcms.org !

Our Mission: “Committed to reaching out with the love of Jesus.”



Sunday Worship: 113 Home Purposes: \$4,899.00
 Sun. Bible Class: 7 Online Donations: \$685.00
 Wed. Bible Class: 8 Missions: \$277.00 Building: \$190.00
 Special Offerings: \$2,020 for the new copier. In memory of Tony Hudler, \$20 for the new doors.

SERVING TONIGHT (6:30 PM):

ACOLYTE:Gus Herbrich
LECTORS:..... Randy Albers, Joan Miertschin
ELDERS:..... Harold Streicher, Becky Weikel
HEAD USHERS:..... Ricky Dunk, Denise Schnell
USHERS: Luis Sanchez, OPEN
GREETERS:..... Luis Sanchez, Hannah Sanchez
SOUND:..... Ralph Streicher
ALTAR GUILD:..... Judy Zuhn

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY:

Acolyte: Hannah Sanchez
Lector:..... Alan Claude
Elders:..... Randy Albers, Bob Horn
Head Ushers:..... Robert Boening, Lee Teinert
Ushers:..... Linda Poncik, Ralph Streicher
Greeters:..... Betty Pecora, Susie Polasek
Sound:..... William Crawford
Altar Guild: Karen Fitch

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,

our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

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

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which you daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

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.

Sit

PRELUDE:..... “Judean Pastorale” by Franklin D. Ashdown

Stand as the cross passes by.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN:..... “The Night Will Soon Be Ending” # 337 vs. 1, 2, 5

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH FOR WEEK FOUR

P We have lit the candles for hope, peace, and joy. Now we come to the fourth candle, the candle of love. We are reminded that Christmas came as the result of God’s love for us. Because His love became incarnate in Christ our Lord, “we love because He first loved us!”

C For God so loved the world that He gave his only Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. (John 3:16)

Acolyte lights four Advent candles while the congregation sings:

HYMN:..... “Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding”# 345 v. 5

Stand

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Undergoing Cancer Treatment: Rhonda Bond (Linda Poncik’s friend); Cari Brownlee (Joyce Dippel’s granddaughter); Karla Frigard (Donna Kappler’s cousin); Erinn Guggenheimer (Beverly Newell’s cousin); Michelle Kiesling Henson (friend of Tami Pietsch and Lisa Caridi); Ben Huerta (Marissa Lehmann’s father); Casey Hyman (Betty Pecora’s nephew); Wanda Keene (Ruby Fehrle’s niece); Amanda Knox; Amy Lochte; Vivian Matthews (Dorothy Witt’s friend); David Mueller (Lorena Mueller’s son); Lara Janda Perez; Bubba Schneider; Lindsey Schouten (Lorri Sanchez’s cousin); Larry Shofner (Charles & Sylvia Hebert’s friend); Kathleen Tintner (Sylvia Hebert’s friend); Dionie Tolman (Gladys Teinert’s friend); and Leroy Wittmann.

Health and Other Concerns: Gladys Ahlschlager; Rebekka Aleman; Meagen Bednar (Hannah Sanchez’s friend); Velma Behrens; Calvin Bohot; Elva Bohot; Victor Bohot; Susan Bolado (Marilyn Spillane’s daughter); Olga Buchhorn; Joseph Burge (Cheryl Roitsch’s cousin); Heather Butler (Joyce Newman’s granddaughter); Woody and Carolyn Butler (Joan Miertschin’s cousin); Deb Conway; Lanny Conway; Lillie Diller; Joyce Dippel; Adam Dunk; Edna Ebner; Lorine Fischer; Dr. Mike Fitzpatrick; Jennifer Freeman (Judy Zuhn’s daughter); Ron Fritsch (Joan Miertschin’s friend); Kim Haskins; Sylvia Hebert; Frances Hentschel; Toni Hill (Beverly Newell’s sister-in-law); Doug Hlavaty (Cheryl Roitsch’s friend); Shirley Hudson (Elsie Michalk’s friend); Irene Koopmann; Wayne Koopmann; Brice Kuhlmann (Leah Wolf’s father); Junell Ladewig; Sandra Ladewig (Junell Ladewig’s daughter-in-law); Gladys Mach; Renee Mazoch (Hannah Sanchez’s friend); Pat Michael; Marvin Miertschin; Renee Moreland (Betty Pecora’s granddaughter); Jim Moulder (Charles & Sylvia Hebert’s friend); Mitzi Mueller (Lorena Mueller’s daughter-in-law); David Newman; Joyce Newman; Beverly Oliver (friend of Elva Bohot); Robert Pavlik; Linda Poncik; Mary Rauch (Mary Walker’s cousin); Bill Sagebiel; Jan Schaefer (Lee Herbrich’s mother); Glenn Schneider; Mary Lou Scoggins (Betty Pecora’s friend); A. F. Seifert; Penny Sengler (BJ Ullrich’s daughter); Ray Streger; William Trlica; Larry Urban; Kim Vanek; Robert Vanek; Mary Walker; Ruby Weatherton (Lisa Caridi’s cousin); Mike Wherry (Junell Ladewig’s son-in-law).

Prayer of Christian Sympathy for the family and friends of Collin Pietsch, who passed away on Tuesday, December 18th.

Silent prayer for situations and people not listed in the bulletin.

LORD'S PRAYER

G 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

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

P Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

Sit

+ READINGS +

OLD TESTAMENT READING:..... 2 Samuel 7:1–11, 16

Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent.” And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you.”

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, “Go and tell my servant David, “Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”” Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, “Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house.

And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING: Romans 16:25–27

Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE..... Jennifer Huelsebusch
(After the children’s message, the children will leave for Children’s Church in the Education Building.)

Stand

(During Advent, the Alleluia and Verse is omitted.)

GOSPEL: Luke 1:26–38

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

(after the reading)

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

C 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:..... “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” # 338

SERMON: “Look What’s Coming” Luke 1:26-38

OFFERTORY:..... “Cantabile” by Justin Knecht
(Members and visitors are invited to record their attendance in the red folders at this time. If you are visiting with us today, please fill out a “Welcome” card from the front of the red attendance folder or in the pews, and hand it to an usher.)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER