



# Mount Calvary Connected

July 27, 2023

*Mount Calvary Connected is a weekly newsletter sent out at the end of each week. Our goal is to keep you connected to your church and your faith with messages from our church, information about upcoming activities at Mt. Calvary, and more!*

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## WEEKLY WORSHIP BULLETINS

Weekly worship bulletins can be found at: [www.mt-calvarylutheran.org/bulletins/](http://www.mt-calvarylutheran.org/bulletins/)

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### **Upcoming Meetings and Events**

Sat., July 29th - Picnic at Benscreek Lutheran - Noon

Thurs., August 3rd - Evangelism Committee - 6:30 PM

Tues., August 8th - Property Committee - 6:00 PM

Thurs., August 10th - Social Ministry - 6:30 PM

Tues., August 22nd - Church Council - 6:30 PM

Sat., August 26th - Women's Day of Renewal hosted by The Allegheny Synodical Women's Organization - Time TBA

Mon., Sept 18th - WELCA (No August Meeting) - 6:00 PM

### **Worship Help**

*Readers/Communion Assistants:*

July 29th Kevin Oleska and Claudia Plows

July 30th Noelle Berkey and Ray Leverknight

*Ushers:*

July 29th Janis Daily & Joan Bunnell

July 30th Volunteers needed!

*Altar Guild:*

August The Hockensmith Family

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Terrie Crisi or sign up on the signup sheet in the Narthex.

*Worship Leader Schedule for July*

July 29th Bishop Paula Schmitt

July 30th Vicar Claudia Plows

### **A Prayer for the Call Committee**

Almighty God, giver of every good gift; look upon this congregation with grace. Guide the minds of our Call Committee members as they discern which of your servants will be our next pastor. Please grant that we might receive a faithful shepherd who will care for us and continue to equip us for ministry in this place. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### **July 29th - August 4th, 2023 Birthdays & Anniversaries**

#### *Anniversaries*

No anniversary celebrations this week.

#### *Birthdays*

July 29th - Jon Dusack

July 30th - Mary Pullin

July 31st - Raymond Leverknight

August 1st - Blake Brehm, Craig Kuyat, & Thomas Venet

August 2nd - Gretel Kaltenbaugh

August 4th - Madison Anderson, Nichole Brehm, & Cindy Solarczyk

### **Please say a prayer for those on our prayer request list:**

Sandy; Louise; Brooke & Bill; Chuck; Dawn; Cherie; Lorrie & Bill; Jamie Bloom; Wilma Hiltz; Johnny Nerone; Cheryl & Roger; James; Denny & Ellen; Sue; El Warshel; Beth Oldham; Stacy & Josh; Janet; Landon; Harold; Mary; Elaine, Patty and Betty Shaffer; Jim Haberkorn; Patty Creany; Rick Wagner; Brianna; Jackie; Mike; Lois; David Mathis & Austin & Family; The Bell Family; Suzzane Miller; Cindy; Danny & Donna Crowson; Bert; for the Call Committee as they seek our future pastor; Jerry Pozun; Pastor Dave Louder and his wife, Corlee; Milo; Jill Lisson; Krista Miller; The Cullens Family; The Wilson Family; Cecilia Baum; The Dickerson-Bair Family; Richelle; The Rohrbaugh Family; Tom & Gretchen; Makenzie Miller; Alex; Jan Layton; the Dalton Blough Family; Jan.

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## **Condensed Worship July 22nd & 23rd, 2023 Gather the wheat into my barn**

### Prayer of the Day

P: Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**A: Amen.**

### First Reading: Isaiah 44:6-8

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one. The word of the Lord, **A: Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody: Psalm 86:11-17

L: Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

**A: I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and glorify your name forevermore.**

L: For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the pit of death.

**A: The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people seeks my life; they have not set you before their eyes.**

L: But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

**A: Turn to me and have mercy on me; give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.**

**Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame; because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.**

Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. <sup>1</sup>For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. The word of the Lord, **A: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**A: Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’” Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!” The gospel of the Lord,

**A: Praise to you, O Christ!**

### Prayers Of Intercession

L: Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

L: O God, you call your church to announce the gospel of reconciliation and truth both near and far. Guide your church as it seeks your wisdom and shares it, trusting your Spirit bearing witness among us. Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

L: You brought forth all creation and called it good. Direct policymakers to protect lands and seas. Bring rain to sun-parched fields and protect areas impacted by natural disasters. Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

L: You desire peace among nations and peoples. Guard our neighborhoods from hatred, watch over police officers and firefighters, and teach us to advocate for those who live in fear. Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

L: You are gracious and merciful, comforting those who suffer any affliction. Sustain your people living with HIV/AIDS, provide shelter for all who are unhoused, and release any who are unjustly imprisoned. Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

L: You name each of us as your children. Guide our hospitality ministry to welcome all, our education ministry to equip us for faithful living, and our social ministry to enact the gospel in our community. Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

L: Most Merciful God, you are the great head of the Church. Look upon us with your favor as we enter the call process. Through this time, empower us, as your people that we might continue the ministry and witness begun in this place. Grant us the strength and the spirit of cooperation to do your will so that we, as a congregation, might continue to be a shining witness to you. Make us ready to assist our new leader in the work that lies ahead. Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

L: You send faithful people to proclaim freedom from bondage and to renew your church. Encourage us by the witness of the faithful departed, so that we live into that same hope. Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

L: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

**A: Amen.**

### Blessing

P: The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed ✠ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

**A: Amen.**