

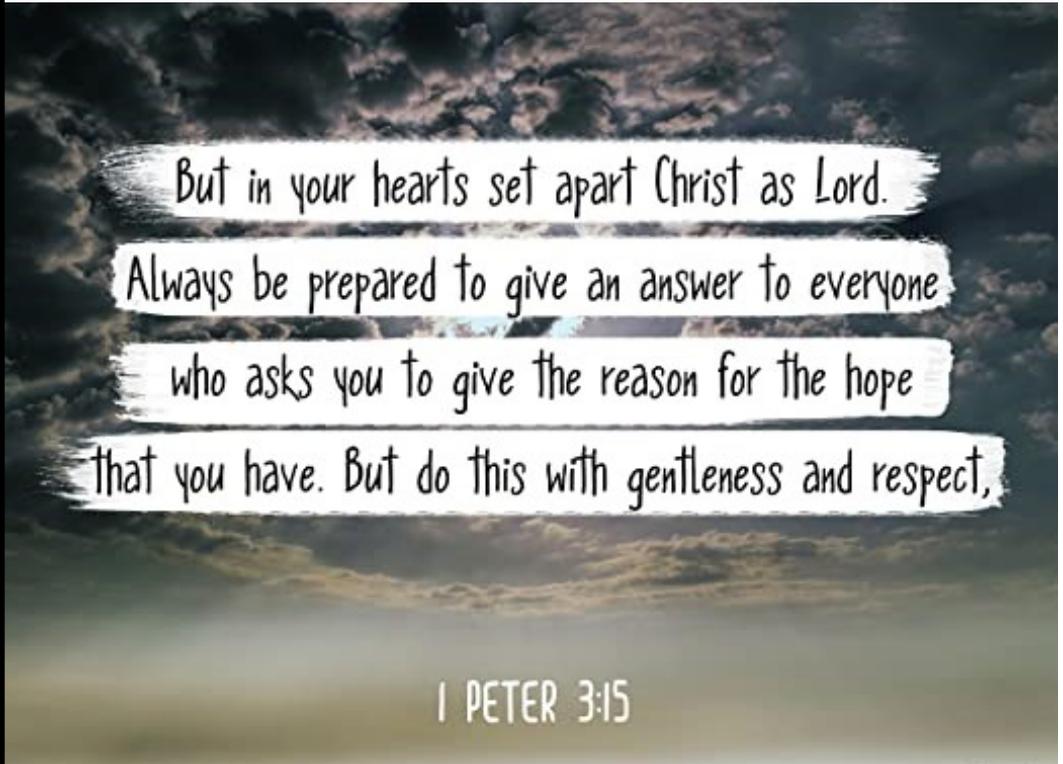


The Calvary Chronicle

“To know Jesus and to make him known, faithfully, boldly, and excellently.”

May 17, 2020

Volume 6, Issue 20



But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord.
Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone
who asks you to give the reason for the hope
that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,

I PETER 3:15

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday (5/17)	8:00a.....	Worship/C
	9:30a.....	Worship/C
	11:00a.....	Worship/C
Thursday (5/21)	7:00p.....	Ascension Worship
Saturday (5/23)	6:00p.....	Worship
Sunday (5/24)	8:00a.....	Worship
	9:30a.....	Worship
	11:00a.....	Worship

'Bold to Speak'

"I will speak of your statutes before kings and will not be put to shame" (Psalm 119:46).

When we consider that God has given us his grace and salvation, is it hard to understand why the psalmist says: **"then I will answer the one who taunts me..."** **"Do not take our word of truth from my mouth..."** **"I will speak of your statutes before kings and not be put to shame..."**? If God has done so much for me, doesn't that give me courage to speak up for him?



A friend of mine visited members of another congregation some time ago. He attended church with them on Sunday but was not impressed with their pastor's preaching. The pastor's speaking skills were poor. The message seemed unorganized. My friend mentioned his criticisms to his hosts, and he was surprised by their passionate defense of their pastor.

These people pointed out that their pastor was a faithful shepherd of his flock. He visited his members regularly. He was not afraid to confront people with their sins, but he did so with a sincere desire to restore them, and he was quick to share the gospel, too. His people could trust him with their problems. When tragedy had struck this very family, the pastor spent long hours beside them in the hospital comforting them with God's word. Since this family had received such love from the pastor, they were bold to speak up for him and defend him. If people are moved by such earthly service and love, how much more does our Savior's grace make us bold to speak up for him!

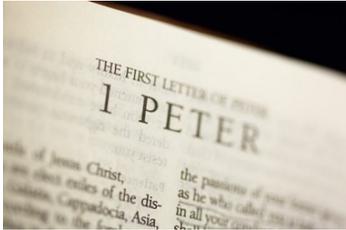
Look at how closely Scripture connects faith and the mouth. Jesus says, **"Out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks"** (Matthew 12:34). Paul writes to the Corinthians, **"I believed, therefore I have spoken"** (2 Cor. 4:13). Paul writes in Romans, "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9). God's grace makes me bold to speak!

This does not mean everyone will be a gifted preacher, missionary, or evangelist. Those are gifts that our Lord gives to specific people. But what does it say about our faith if we will not speak about him at all? Can such a faith be healthy? He has only one way of spreading the gospel to others: through the mouths of his people. If we will not preach his gospel and share his grace, then God may take it away from us and give it to a people who will.

The answer for cramped hearts and closed mouths that will not speak, the solution for our cowardice and lack of love, is found in the same grace that the psalmist so desired for himself. There we find the forgiveness that removes our guilt for Christ's sake and restores our relationship with God. This sin, too, has been paid for at the cross. Then God's grace fills our hearts with faith and love. I don't need more advice about how to be a better witness. I need my heart to be overcome by the grace that makes me bold.

In 1530 the fathers of the Lutheran Church used the words of verse 46 to introduce their faith to the Holy Roman Emperor in the Augsburg Confession: "I will speak of your statutes before kings and will not be put to shame." Whether we are speaking to kings or next door neighbors, may his grace make us so bold, too.

Alive with Hope: 1 Peter



2020 is not the only time in history that people have endured grave suffering. In the early days of the Church, Christians were persecuted, exiled, or even killed for confessing their faith in Jesus. The Apostle Peter, as one of the recognized “pillars” of the Christian community, wrote a letter of encouragement to suffering Christians scattered throughout Asia Minor (present day Turkey).

Peter’s letter is characterized with two big words: Life and Hope! **Life** – a real life lived in the peace of forgiveness now and the certainty of heaven for eternity – is guaranteed by the resurrection to life of Jesus. **Hope**, given by the same resurrected Jesus, is what sustains God’s people in times of suffering. But hope in Christ is not in an ambiguous future, but in the security of God’s promises of a blessed eternity. In Christ, the faithful are **Alive with Hope**.

Year A on the liturgical calendar suggests a series of readings from Peter’s first letter throughout the Easter Season. It seems appropriate, with the burdens placed on people worldwide, to address our sufferings in the light of Peter’s encouragements. During the pandemic of 2020 or in the midst of whatever suffering may still be in store for us, in Christ we can be **Alive with Hope**. Our Easter Series will follow through 1 Peter under the following themes:

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|---|---|
| Second Sunday of Easter (4/19): | ... for Praise (1 Peter 1:3-9) |
| Third Sunday of Easter (4/26): | ... as Strangers (1 Peter 1:17-21) |
| Fourth Sunday of Easter (5/3): | ... with Patience (1 Peter 2:19-25) |
| Fifth Sunday of Easter (5/10): | ... as Living Stones (1 Peter 2:4-10) |
| Sixth Sunday of Easter (5/17): | ... to Speak (1 Peter 3:15-22) |
| Seventh Sunday of Easter (5/24): | ... in Suffering (1 Peter 4:12-17; 5:6-11) |

Practical Tip for Personal Preparation: The book of Acts is a unique book within the Bible canon. It does not fall neatly inside the three basic categories of readings: Old Testament, New Testament Letters (Epistles), or Gospels. It is the companion volume to Luke’s Gospel and continues the Bible History account from Jesus’ ascension through the early years of the Christian Church. Though Jesus is still the primary focus of the book, the basic outline of Acts follow Peter (the spread of the Gospel in and around Jerusalem, primarily among a Jewish audience) before pivoting toward Paul (the spread of the Gospel to the Gentile world). Each year during the Easter season the First Lesson is drawn from the book of Acts – the post-resurrection Church in action. In your personal Bible reading, take time this Easter Season to read through the book of Acts!

Important...



LADIES TEA PARTY: **Has been cancelled.** So, on **Sunday, May 17th**, Calvary ladies of all ages, fix yourself a cup of tea and a wonderful lunch of finger foods, dress up with your hats and gloves, and pray for all your sisters that we all stay healthy and safe. Take a picture and share it on facebook! We will all hope and look forward to next year's Tea Party.

SCHOOL VIRTUAL TOUR: Though the desks at Calvary currently sit empty, they won't say that way! While the 2019-2020 school year winds down, preparations for the 2020-2021 school year are ramping up. **Who will fill the desks at Calvary in the fall?**

By God's grace, many of our current families are returning to do just that. But there are more desks to fill. More room for eager learners. More opportunities for others to build on the Rock of God's Word.

Consider telling your friends about Calvary Lutheran School.

Invite them to visit our website and take our virtual tour. We want more children to be part of our special Calvary family next year! Thank you for your partnership and support!

Link: <https://calvarydallas.org/virtual-tour/>



SAVE THE DATES: The WELS Missions office is excited to partner with our friends at the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) to host an online event called Taste and See! This first-of-its-kind event will combine the very best of Taste of Missions and LWMS Convention to provide all WELS members an

opportunity to be an important part of gospel outreach occurring in our synod. **Tune in beginning on Saturday, June 27**, to watch livestreamed opening worship service with brothers and sisters around the world. **From June 28 – July 10, learn** about Missions through keynote presentations, recorded workshops, mission-minded daily devotions, and more. Participate in family-friendly scavenger hunts, try your hand at making ethnic recipes shared by our missionaries, and ask questions during live Q&A sessions with Home and World Missions representatives. We will wrap up the online festivities with the livestreamed commissioning of new missionaries on **Saturday, July 11.**

Learn more: <https://wels.net/event/taste-and-see>

Stacey Jackson, Church Secretary ~ Email - churchsec@calvarydallas.org

...Announcements

OFFERINGS: Our ministry is supported through the offerings of God's people. Traditionally these offerings are placed into an offering plate passed during each worship service. God does not need your money. It's all His already. However, He loves the generosity of giving as part of a joyful response to His generous love for us. **Today we have many opportunities to give our offerings:**

Online: Click the "GIVE" button at the top of the webpage at calvarydallas.org, then click the red "Give Now" button. You can sign up for one-time or recurring gifts.



Mail: Mail a check to Calvary Lutheran, **9807 Church Rd. Dallas, TX 75238**. We are still gathering and depositing these gifts weekly.



App: Download the [Give Plus app](#) and search with 75238 as the zip code. Select Calvary Lutheran in Dallas as your church and sign up for one-time or recurring gifts.

Text: Send a text **833-948-2221** with the dollar amount you want to give. Receive a text back with simple set-up instructions. All gifts go directly to Calvary.

If you need assistance with any of these giving methods, please contact the Church Secretary at churchsec@calvarydallas.org.

For those interested in the current financial situation: **We have seen a decrease in offerings as we have to more online worship and decreased attendance.** Calvary does need continued support to operate in the same manner. All of the above options are excellent ways to provide that support.

*"But just as you excel in everything in complete earnestness and in your love for us - see that you also excel in this grace of giving."
2 Corinthians 8:7*



Beckie Koelpin, School Secretary ~ Email - schoolsec@calvarydallas.org

VBS To Go!



We're packing all the fun of VBS into a little bag so you can enjoy VBS fun at home!

Who: Children from 2 through 12 years-old. We have a VBS Tots program tailored for little learners and a VBS Kids program tailored for the older kids!

When: June 22nd-26th

Cost: \$5 per child

Registration: Advanced online registration is required by June 8th.

Each take-home VBS kit includes a full week of:

- Lesson leaflets
- Crafts, supplies, and instruction cards
- A fun bonus activity for each day
- Pre-packaged snacks and drinks

Daily lessons, music, and VBS cheers will be presented by our team of teachers via an emailed video link.



Calvary
LUTHERAN CHURCH + SCHOOL

www.calvarydallas.org/connect

Today in Sunday School



Jesus Forgives Peter

Bible Reading: [John 21:1-17](#)

Key Point: Jesus is merciful. When we sin, he forgives us, welcomes us back into his family, and gives us new hearts that rejoice in serving him.

Memory Verse: *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" 2 Corinthians 5:17*

Prayer: Dear Jesus, You know my sin. Your amazing love gives me forgiveness and reminds me that I am your child. Give me a new heart that love and serves you! I am yours! Amen.



Jan Fritz	5/17
Nikki Roson	5/17
Adrian Tucker	5/17
David Slater	5/18
Sterling Hahn	5/19
Easton Ramsey	5/19
Luke Ramsey	5/19
Lee Witt	5/20
Carmine Caudle	5/22
Sterling Hahn	5/22

Nathan & Samantha Barker

May 18th, 2017

Our Response To the Word

IN TIME AND GIFTS:

Worshippers Last Weekend.....117 Online & 105 Present
Given to the Glory of God for April 2020.....\$84,879
Needed monthly for God's Work.....\$72,586

IN TALENTS THIS WEEKEND:

Liturgist/Preacher.....Pastor John Koelpin
Pianist.....Dawn Aswege or Sarah Schemm
Audio/Visual.....Rick Jackson and John McCarthy

Elders & Ushers:

Saturday.....Rick Jackson & Mark Mattes
8:00am.....Wally Gutzmer & Derrick Hahn
9:30am.....David Bertram & David Schallert
11:00am.....John Newbold & Tony Reifel/Bill Ball

Altar.....Anna Wallander & Lee Witt

Next Week.....Florence Monrovia

Mowing Crew:

5/23.....Kliebert Team
5/30.....Beavan Team
6/6.....Barbour Team
6/13.....David Team

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

First Lesson.....Acts 1:1-14

Psalm.....8

Second Lesson.....1 Peter 4:12-17; 5:6-11

Gospel Reading.....John 17:1-11