

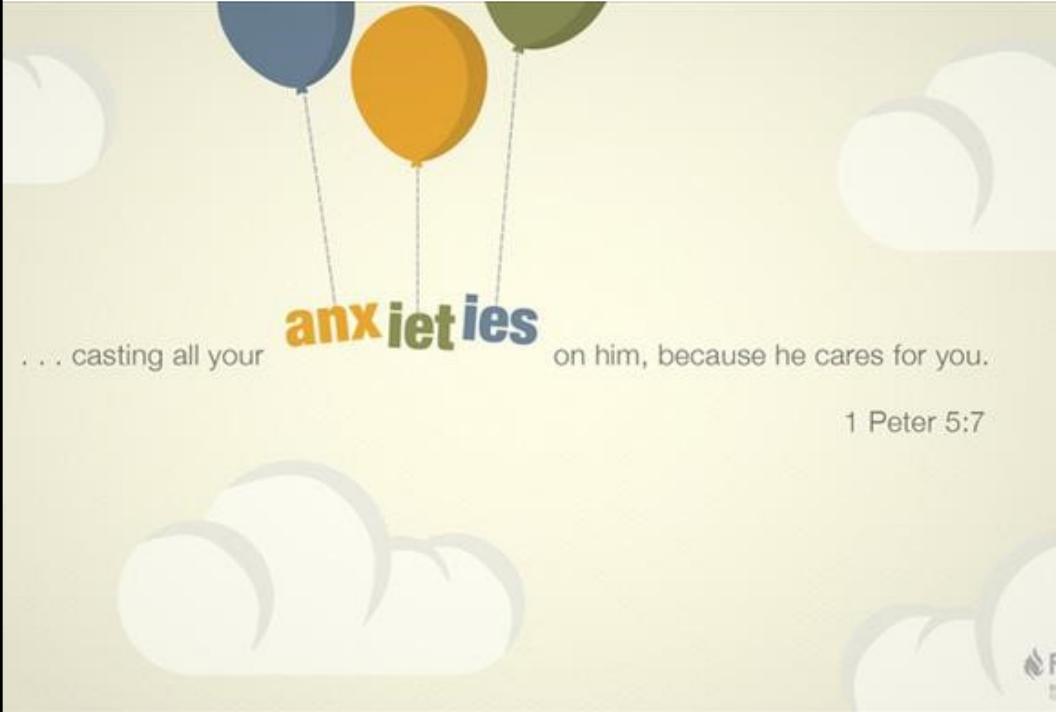


The Calvary Chronicle

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

May 24, 2020

Volume 6, Issue 21



LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday (5/24)	8:00a.....	Worship
	9:30a.....	Worship
	11:00a.....	Worship
Saturday (5/30)	6:00p.....	Worship
Sunday (5/31)	8:00a.....	Worship
	9:30a.....	Worship
	11:00a.....	Worship

'Suffering in Perspective'

Romans 8:18 "I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us."

Don't get the idea that Paul is here offering his opinion. When he says "I consider," he is using a word from the commercial world of business and finance. It is a conclusion which has been reached based upon a careful examination of the facts, not guesses or assumptions. The figures have been added up, and the sum total has been established.

Paul knew how things could add up on the suffering side. In his travels as a missionary, he constantly lived with some unknown painful condition he could not get rid of. "My thorn in the flesh," he called it. He had received the same skin-ripping whipping that Jesus received before his crucifixion 5 times in his life. It was such an agonizing experience, it was considered a punishment just short of the death penalty. A number of years ago our government protested the "caning" of an American vandal in Singapore as cruel and inhuman punishment. Paul received this sort of beating with a rod at least 3 times during his journeys for no good reason.

Perhaps the suffering in your life rivals that of the apostle. Mine does not. I point this out not because our suffering counts for less if it doesn't add up to what Paul experienced. I only want us to understand that he was not speaking from some ivory tower. Paul knew pain personally.

He also knew that it is an unavoidable part of life for those who follow Jesus. We've made such enemies here by following him. The Devil would like to take your illness, your loss, your grief, your anxieties, or your struggles, and use them to squeeze the spiritual life out of you. He wants to convince you God has turned against you, if he exists at all. He knows many Christians will do almost anything to escape their misery or distress, even if it means compromising their faith or denying their Savior. This side of heaven, we suffer.

I don't need to convince most of you. Our suffering is self-evident. And yet, unpleasant though it is, Paul promises that these present sufferings "are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us." Is that hard to believe? We know our sufferings well. We experience them every day. We know much less about this future glory. Paul doesn't describe it in detail. On the whole, the Bible has relatively little to say in a detailed or descriptive way about that glory. It rather tends to dwell on the troubles that will be left behind in heaven. How could that future glory outweigh our present sufferings so far, that not only does it make up for them, it really exceeds any comparison at all?

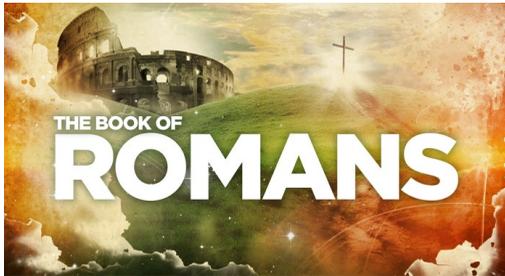
First of all, God considered this glory so important for us, such a precious thing for us to have, that he placed all the guilt for our every single sin upon his only Son, and he sacrificed him on the cross just to give us this glory. Our possession of this gift is worth the life of Jesus.

Secondly, the fact that even the Bible writers struggle to describe this glory is for our comfort. It so far exceeds any good thing we know on earth, that there is little to compare it to. The German settlers in the part of Minnesota where I grew up made a rich breakfast food called "gritwurst." It's so unique I don't have anything to compare it to. I could give you the ingredients, but that would make you wrinkle up your nose, when in fact it has a wonderfully rich flavor. On an infinitely grander scale, heaven so far exceeds anything we have experienced that God simply assures us it will be pure joy.

Thirdly, in 2 Corinthians Paul describes these same sufferings as our "light and momentary troubles." Even if our lives are sheer misery for 70, 80, or 90 years, the pain will come to an end. It is momentary compared to eternal glory. And if this glory is eternal, that means that it can't be numbered by years. How can you compare something in time to something eternal? Our suffering doesn't compare to what is coming. This helps us to keep our present sufferings in perspective.



Pentecost Sermon Series



The Christian Faith, One Word at a Time

Paul's letter to the Romans is a theological masterpiece. In anticipation of a visit to Rome – a stopping point on Paul's journey westward – Paul outlined the main points of Christian doctrine, presumably to confirm the unity of faith and confession

between Paul and the Christians in Rome. The book of Romans is as close to a "Bible Information Class" or "Bible 101 Course" as there is in the New Testament.

During the first sixteen weeks of the Pentecost Season (after the celebrations that occur on the first two weeks of the season; Pentecost Day and Holy Trinity) Year A of the liturgical calendar follows a series of readings through Paul's letter to the Romans. The lessons read like a curriculum for instruction in Christian doctrine and provide the congregation an excellent opportunity to walk through the basics, one word at a time.

Throughout the summer months and into the fall of the year, our sermons will delve into the foundational teachings of the Christian Faith as explained by Paul in Romans. It is "The Christian Faith, One Word at a Time".

Pentecost 2 (6/14)	Atonement	Pentecost 10 (8/9)	Chosen
Pentecost 3 (6/21)	Righteousness	Pentecost 11 (8/16)	Inseparable
Pentecost 4 (6/28)	Reconciliation	Pentecost 12 (8/23)	Roots
Pentecost 5 (7/5)	Reversal	Pentecost 13 (8/30)	Grafted
Pentecost 6 (7/12)	Buried	Pentecost 14 (9/6)	Awe
Pentecost 7 (7/19)	Battling	Pentecost 15 (9/13)	Sacrifice
Pentecost 8 (7/26)	Longing	Pentecost 16 (9/20)	Love
Pentecost 9 (8/2)	Praying	Pentecost 17 (9/27)	Freedom

Practical Tip for Personal Preparation: Stay ahead of the liturgical calendar! Begin reading through the Book of Romans today, taking a chapter each week. In sixteen weeks, you will be finished. By starting now, you will be able to anticipate what each week's message is about. Use the liturgical calendar on page 163 of Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal to re-read each weeks lesson and consider how the above words capture the theme of the lesson.

Important...

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.

GIVE+

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 Ascends into Heaven

Bible Reading: [Acts 1:6-11](#)

Key Point: Jesus' work of dying on the cross and rising again is complete. He promises to always be with us until we join him in heaven someday.

Memory Verse: *"And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."* [Matthew 28:20](#)

Prayer: Dear Jesus, you came to the earth to die on the cross and rise again so that our sins could be forgiven. We now look forward to joining you in heaven. We thank you! You also promise to always be with us here on earth. We thank you! Help us to remember that always. We love you! Amen.



Keiko Barker 5/24

Matt Walker 5/28

Talia Hamdan 5/30

Orlan & Carole Ihms

May 26th, 1984

Our Response To the Word

IN TIME AND GIFTS:

Worshippers Last Weekend.....96 Present (Online Unavailable)
Given to the Glory of God for April 2020.....\$84,879
Needed monthly for God's Work.....\$72,586

IN TALENTS THIS WEEKEND:

Preacher.....Pastor John Koelpin
Pianist.....Saturday - Sue Stricker; Sunday - Dawn Aswege or Sarah Schemm
Audio/Visual.....Rick Jackson and John McCarthy

Elders & Ushers:

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

Altar.....Florence Monrovia

Next Week.....Lee Witt

Mowing Crew:

5/30.....Beavan Team
6/6.....Barbour Team
6/13.....David Team
6/20.....Henrickson Team

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

First Lesson.....Joel 2:28,29
Psalm.....51b
Second Lesson.....Acts 2:1-21
Gospel Reading.....John 16:5-11