



The Calvary Chronicle

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

August 16, 2020

Volume 6, Issue 33

ROMANS 8:38-39

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday (8/16)	9:30a.....	Worship/C
	11:00a.....	Worship/C
Wednesday (8/19)	8:00a.....	First Day of School (Noon Dismissal)
Saturday (8/22)	6:00p.....	Worship
Sunday (8/23)	9:30a.....	Worship
	11:00a.....	Worship

'This Love Wins'

*"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble, or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written, 'For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."
Romans 8:35-37*

Sometimes God's love feels a little theological, a little theoretical, like a set of abstract principles in mathematics. It works on paper, but is it real? Oh yes it is! Look at how God's love intersects with our lives.



In order to open our eyes and help us see God's love more clearly, Paul gives us a list we might call "Love's skeptics" or "Love's deniers." So often experience seems to contradict the idea that God loves us. Ancient life was not so different than our own. Behind words like "trouble" and "hardship" in Paul's Greek are experiences we know all too well. "Trouble" literally has the sense of "pressure." We feel the "squeeze." We feel pressure to compromise our morals or our integrity from the people we work for, or from our peers at school. "Hardship" puts us in narrow place, a tight spot. The walls are closing in. The options are running out. Finally, we are cornered and trapped.

Why, if he loves us, does God let us be persecuted? How come I can't just fit in and be accepted? Why should they others make jokes behind my back when I try to live my faith? Why should my job, my reputation, my safety be threatened because of what I believe?

If I am God's child and he loves me, then why should I suffer famine or nakedness? Or to put it in more 21st Century American terms, why should I be living on the edge of poverty? Why should I be struggling to make ends meet? Doesn't God promise our daily bread? What gives?

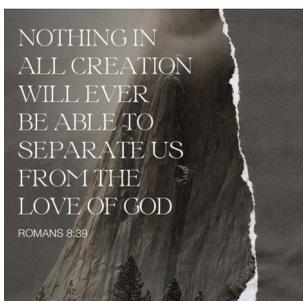
What about danger or sword? My house has to be a little fortress—dead bolts and alarms and tornado shelters—to keep me safe. And even these offer no real guarantees. Has God stopped loving us?

Bits of Bread

“No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.” In support, Paul brings a second list. Here are the leading candidates for getting between us and God’s love for us. Every one of them is destined to fail.

“I am convinced that neither death nor life...” Death can’t do it. Although death was at one time the penalty for sin that cut us off from God, now it is the gateway to life. It is our last step on the way home. It brings us into the direct presence of God and his love. It never moves us farther away.

Life can’t do it, either. More than death, people fear the things life throws at us. We don’t want to suffer. But the worst that life has to offer is just temporary, and God promises to love us through it all.



“Neither angels nor demons...” Spiritual powers, whether good or evil, cannot do it. We should respect them because their powers greatly exceed our own. But they are no match for God and his love. Even if the good angels were to turn against us (which they would never do) God’s love remains the same. It always protects us. It always says to them, “You may go this far and no farther.” These most powerful spiritual beings (other than God himself) cannot separate us from his love.

“Neither the present nor the future nor any powers...” Nothing in time can do it. We may not like the times we live in now. They feel like evil times. Christianity and Christians seem to be in retreat. We may fear the future with all its unknowns even more. But present or future, from now until the day Jesus returns, we will be the objects of God’s love, every minute, every moment, until the clock ticks its final second and time is over.

“Neither height nor depth nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Build a space probe and travel to the farthest edges of the universe. Dig a hole and keep digging until you come out in China. God’s love for you is bigger and more powerful than anything else that exists. You will never find anything anywhere that can separate us from God’s love.

How do we know? In his Son, on a cross, and at an empty tomb God has loved us and loves us still.

Ways to Give

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 reoccurring 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 reoccurring 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



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

Forward in Faith Fund

An inside look at...



Since it's very beginning in 1972, Calvary Lutheran School has been committed to providing children a high-quality education rooted in the truth of God's Word.

THE CHALLENGE

The cost of education is rising rapidly. This presents challenges for both Calvary Lutheran School and student families.



THE OPPORTUNITY

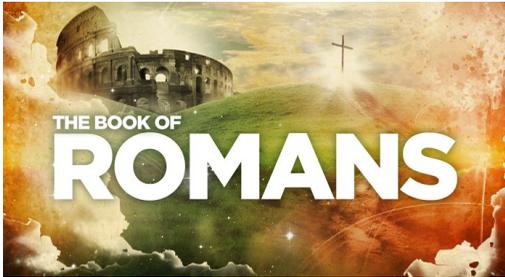
Forward in Faith is base of Difference-Makers who use their blessings from the Lord to give the gift of Christian education to the next generation. This committed base supports ministry,

YOU can make a difference through Forward in Faith!

*Looking for more information about Forward in Faith?
Visit our web page at <https://calvarydallas.org/school/fif>
and join the movement!*

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

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.

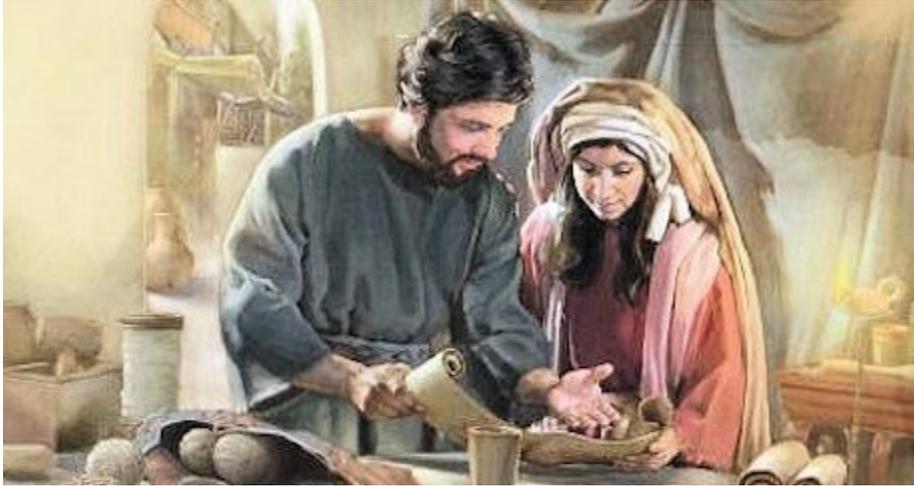
Throughout the summer months and into the fall of the year, our sermons will delve into the foundational teachings of the Christian Faith as explained by Paul in Romans. It is "The Christian Faith, One Word at a Time".

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 week's lesson and consider how the above words capture the theme of the lesson.

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Today in Sunday School



Priscilla and Aquila

Bible Reading: [Acts 18:2-3, 18, 16](#); [Romans 16:3](#); [1 Corinthians 16:19](#); [2 Timothy 4:19](#)

Key Point: Partners in life and ministry

Memory Verse: *"I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel."
Philippians 1:4,5*

Prayer: Dear Father in heaven, since you want the Good News to go out to the ends of the earth, give us friends that will support and encourage us as we tell others about your love. Send your Holy Spirit into the hearts of those who hear about Jesus that they might believe and be saved. Amen.



**Birthdays &
Anniversaries
This Month!**

James Tucker	8/16
Ethan Jackson	8/16
Claire Weimer	8/18
Cindi Jackson	8/20
Lydia Schemm	8/20
Carol Marsteller	8/21

Peter & Debra Schumacher
August 20th, 1978

Our Response To the Word

IN TIME AND GIFTS:

Worshippers Last Weekend.....	96 Present & 57 Online
Given to the Glory of God for June 2020.....	\$64,607
Needed monthly for God's Work.....	\$71,428

IN TALENTS THIS WEEKEND:

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

Elders & Ushers:

Saturday.....	Rick Jackson
9:30am.....	David Bertram & David Schallert
11:00am.....	Larry Gray & Hans Voss

Mowing Crew:

8/22.....	Skip Week
8/29.....	Kliebert Team
9/5.....	Beavan Team
9/12.....	Barbour Team
8/19.....	David Team

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

First Lesson.....	1 Kings 19:9-18
Psalm.....	73
Second Lesson.....	Romans 9:1-5
Gospel Reading.....	Matthew 14:22-33