

Children's Christmas Service

Calvary Lutheran School



(by Ellie Koelpin, grade 6)

God's Promises

Calvary Lutheran Church and School
9807 Church Road + Dallas, TX + 75238
214-348-5567
calvarydallas.org

December 20, 2024 6:30 p.m.

Welcome to Worship

It's our privilege as students, faculty, and staff to share the message of Christmas joy, hope, and peace with you tonight! We pray that through God's word and song you will hear and take to heart God's message of salvation as he fulfilled his promise to send a Savior to save all from their sins. May God bless you and your family not only in this Christmas season but with the joy, hope, and peace tonight's message brings throughout the year.

Offering – Forward in Faith

<https://calvarydallas.org/about-clc/fif/>

Offerings given this evening will be applied to our Forward in Faith Fund. Forward in Faith is a diverse network of Christ-Followers who are united in the essential cause to make Christian education excellent and accessible for the next generation of disciples. Offerings support families with financial assistance and promote excellence and growth by providing funds for improvement outside the regular school budget.

Offerings may be placed in the baskets as you exit church or may be given online using the QR code to the right. You are also invited to become part of Calvary's Forward in Faith Cavalry by pledging monthly offerings.



No Photography During Worship

Our children have prepared to lead worship tonight – not a play or program. It is the prayer of our faculty and students that the focus of our worshippers' attention will not be the children, but the Christ child in the manger.

We ask that there be

NO PHOTOGRAPHY DURING THE SERVICE.



The service will be made available on our church website for streaming.

You are invited to take pictures with your children after the service.

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God's Promises

Calvary Children's Christmas Service 2024

Processional

354 – O Come, All Ye Faithful
Grades K-8

Grades 5-8

1. *O come, all you faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold him, born the King of angels:*

Refrain:

*O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

Grades 3-8

2. *God from true God, and Light from Light eternal,
Born of a virgin, to earth he comes!
Only begotten Son of God the Father: Refrain.*

Grades 1-8

3. *Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest: Refrain.*

Grades K-8

4. *Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning:
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: Refrain.*

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Message

Genesis 12:1-3

Part 1 – God’s Promise for His Chosen LAND

Commentary

Pastor

Prophecies of God’s Promises for His Chosen LAND

Grades 7-8

Genesis 12:7

The LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

Joshua 21: 43-45

So the LORD gave Israel all the land he had sworn to give their ancestors, and they took possession of it and settled there. The LORD gave them rest on every side, just as he had sworn to their ancestors. Not one of their enemies withstood them; the LORD gave all their enemies into their hands. Not one of all the LORD’s good promises to Israel failed; everyone was fulfilled.

Micah 5:2

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.

Hymn

343 – Once in Royal David’s City
Grades 1-8 and Congregation

Grades 1-8

1. *Once in royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed.
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.*

Grades 3-8

2. *He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall.
With the poor and mean and lowly lived on earth our Savior holy.*

Grades 5-8 and Congregation

3. **And our eyes at last shall see him through his own redeeming love,
For that child, so dear and gentle, is our Lord in heav’n above,
And he leads his children on to the place where he has gone.**

Grades 1-8 and Congregation

4. **Not in that poor, lowly stable with the oxen standing by
Shall we see him, but in heaven, set at God’s right hand on high.
Then like stars his children crowned, all in white, his praise will sound.**

Recitation

Luke 1:26-38

Grades 5-6

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

Hymn

311 – Dawning Light of Our Salvation

Grades K-8

Grades 3-8

1. *Long in darkness Israel wandered; long in mortal shadows we
Walked in bondage and self-pity, trod in paths of sin and grief.
In the prophets' words he told us, long the God of Israel spoke;
He alone in strength would save us from the hands of all our foes.*

Grades K-8

Refrain

*Ev'ry valley be exalted! Ev'ry mountain be made plain!
Crooked ways repent and straighten; All creation bend in praise!*

Grades 3-8

2. *He shall raise a mighty Savior; born of David's lineage, he
Comes in cov'nant love to claim us, from our sins to set us free.
Light to those who dwell in darkness, life to those from death who flee,
Joy unto the earth, and gladness, to your pathways dawning peace!*

Refrain

3. *Jesus, Lord, and mighty Savior, David's Son and yet his King,
Dawning light of our salvation, of your saving pow'r we sing!
Stand, O lame and dance, ye broken; know the Savior's healing grace.
Come, O deaf, and hear him singing; turn, O blind, behold his face!*

Refrain

Recitation

Matthew 1:18-25

Grades 5-6

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

Part 2 – God's Promise for His Chosen PEOPLE

Commentary

Pastor

Prophecies of God's Promises for His Chosen PEOPLE

Grades 7-8

Genesis 15:5

He took him outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring[a] be."

Numbers 24: 17,19a

"I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near.
A star will come out of Jacob, a scepter will rise out of Israel.
A ruler will come out of Jacob.

Isaiah 11:1

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

Cherub Choir Anthem

Today a Savior is Born

Lynn Shaw Bailey

*Today a Savior is born for you. Glory to God in the highest!
Today a Savior is born for you. Glory to God in the highest!*

*This will be a sign for you, The Babe asleep on the hay.
Tell the news to ev'ryone. Jesus, Messiah, is born today.*

*Shepherds ran to Bethlehem, To see the Babe on the hay.
Angels in the heavens sang, Jesus, Messiah is born today!*

*Today a Savior is born for you. Glory to God in the highest!
Today a Savior is born for you. Glory to God in the highest!
Glory to God in the highest! Glory to God in the highest!*

Handbell Choir

A Christmas Lullaby

Hymn

341 – Away in a Manger

Grades K-8

Grades K-2

- 1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

Grades K-2

- 2. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
the little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.*

Grades K-8

- 3. Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and take us to heaven to live with you there.*

Recitation

Luke 2:1-7

Grades 3-4

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

Junior Choir Anthem

Hush, My Babe, Lie Still and Slumber

By Jody Lindh

*Hush, my Babe, lie still in slumber, in this stable poor and drear,
Hear the wind blow cold and bitter, Sheep and oxen standing near.
Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo, Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.*

*Bright the winter stars are shining, Angels in the heavens sing,
Shepherds gather, lost in wonder, Wise Men kneel, their gifts to bring.
Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo, Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.*

*May your sleep be sweet and peaceful, May you rest now, Heav'n-ly Boy;
Child of Blessing, Child of Promise, Be our Hope, our Peace, our Joy.
Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo, Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.*

Part 3 – God’s Promise of the SAVIOR

Commentary

Pastor

Prophecies of God’s Promises of the SAVIOR

Grades 7-8

Genesis 3:15

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

Isaiah 42:1

“Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight;
I will put my Spirit on him. and he will bring justice to the nations.

Isaiah 53:5,6

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Job 19: 25-27

I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

Recitation

Luke 2:8-14

Grades K-2

Grade K

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

Grades 1-2

But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

Grades K-2

**“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”**

Hymn

337 – Silent Night

Grades Pre-K-8, Alumni, and Congregation

NOTE: Alumni receive a candle prior to service. **AFTER THE FIRST STANZA** Calvary students will walk to the center aisle and alumni will gather in the side aisles. A faculty member will start the candle lighting in the side aisles **DURING THE SINGING OF STANZA ONE IN GERMAN.** Alumni will join in singing the German stanza as well as the following stanzas. When the song is complete, please blow out your candles as you return to your seats. Please place your candles in the box in the narthex at the end of the service.

FRONT



Pre-K-8 (with sign language)

*Silent Night! Holy Night! All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild.
Sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.*

Interlude: After the Calvary students walk to the center aisle, alumni are invited to walk forward in the side aisles with lit candles

1-8 and Alumni

*Stille Nacht Heilige Nacht Alles schlaeft, einsam wacht
Nur das traghte hoch heilige paar,
Holder knabe im lockigen haar,
Schlaf in himlischer Ruh! Schlaf in himlischer Ruh!*

*Silent Night! Holy Night! Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar;
Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!*

K-8, Alumni, and Congregation. PLEASE STAND

**Silent Night! Holy Night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

Musical Interlude as Alumni return to their seats.

Handbell Choir

Silent Night

Recitation

Luke 2:15-20
Grades 3-4

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Hymn

345 – Where Shepherds Lately Knelt
Grades 3-8

(Grades 3-8)

1. *Where shepherds lately knelt and kept the angel's word,
I come in half belief, a pilgrim strangely stirred;
But there is room and welcome there for me,
But there is room and welcome there for me.*
2. *In that unlikely place I find him as they said:
Sweet newborn babe, how frail! And in a manger bed:
A still, small voice to cry one day for me.
A still, small voice to cry one day for me.*
3. *How should I not have known Isaiah would be there,
His prophecies fulfilled? With pounding heart I stare:
A child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me,
A child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me.*
4. *Can I, will I forget how Love was born, and burned
It's way into my heart - unasked, unforced, unearned,
To die, to live, and not alone for me,
To die, to live, and not alone for me.*

Part 4 – God's Promise FOR YOU

Commentary

Pastor

Prophecies of God's Promises FOR YOU

In this final section, each classroom will share a favorite promise of God Bible verse. All will join in Psalm 145:13.

Grade K: Psalm 50:15

“Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me.”

Grades 1-2: Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Grades 3-4: Matthew 28:20

Surely I am with you always to the very end of the age.

Grades 5-6: Romans 8:28

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Grades 7-8: Isaiah 41:10

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Grades K-8: Psalm 145:13

The LORD is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does.

Hymn

Joy Has Dawned
Grades 3-8 and Congregation

Grades 3-8

- 1. Joy has dawned upon our world, promised from creation-
God's salvation now unfurled, hope for ev'ry nation
Not with fanfares from above, not with scenes of glory
But a humble gift of love – Jesus born of Mary.*
- 2. Sounds of wonder fill the sky with the songs of angels
As the mighty Prince of Life shelters in a stable
Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in darkness,
Cling now to a mother's breast, vuln'erable and helpless.*

Grades 3-8 and Congregation

- 3. Shepherds bow before the Lamb, gazing at the glory;
Gifts of men from distant lands prophesy the story.
Gold – a King is born today, Incense – God is with us,
Myrrh – His death will make a way and by His blood He'll win us.**
- 4. Son of Adam, Son of Heav'n, given as a ransom;
Reconciling God and man, Christ, our mighty champion!
What a Savior! What a Friend! What a glorious myst'ry!
Once a babe in Bethlehem, Now the Lord of hist'ry.**

Prayer of the Church

Almighty God, by the incarnation of your eternal Son, you revealed that you are love. Give us true faith in Christ and His promise that by His conception, virgin birth, holy life, sacrificial death and victorious resurrection, our sins are forgiven and we are yours. Fill us with joy, and lead us to proclaim your glad tidings to all people. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, your Son born in Bethlehem is the Son of David and the Lord of David, to whom every knee shall bow. Look upon those you have placed in authority, and grant that they would govern in wisdom and justice. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, you love us and sent your Son to be the atonement for our sins. Strengthen us to love one another. As you have mercy upon all who are poor and troubled, so perfect your love in us, that we would gladly be your instruments of help in time of need. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy Lord, in the birth of your Son, you have visited and redeemed your people. Continue to visit those who are lonely, sick, recovering or near death [*especially* _____]. Let your presence be a comfort to them, and give them perseverance until the time you grant healing, relief, deliverance and peace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you, dear Lord, for the saints who received your blessing of righteousness in Christ and now stand in the most holy place before your throne. Preserve us by your grace in the holiness of Christ, that we, too, may dwell in your light and life for eternity; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

May God Almighty, who by the Incarnation of his only Son drove away the darkness of the world and by his glorious birth enlightened this most holy night, drive away from us the darkness of sins and enlighten our hearts with the light of Christian graces. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

353 – Joy to the World
Grades PreK-8 and Congregation

Grades PreK-8

1. *Joy to the world, the Lord is come!*
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Grades 3-8 and Congregation

2. **Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!**
Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Grades 5-8 and Congregation

3. **No more let sins and sorrows grow**
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.
4. **He rules the world with truth and grace**
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his love.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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O Come, All Ye Faithful

Tune: ADESTE FIDELES, Handbell arrangement Jason W. Krug
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Hymn 343 – Once in Royal David's City

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818-1895, *abr.*, alt.
Tune: IRBY, Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805-1876
Text and tune: public domain
Scripture references: Lk 2:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11

Hymn 311 – Dawning Light of Our Salvation

Text: Wendell Kimbrough, b. 1983
Tune: DAWNING LIGHT, Bruce Benedict, b. 1980
Text: © 2012 Wendell Kimbrough
Tune: © 2012 Cardiphonia
Scripture references: Is 9:2; Mt 4:12-16; Jn 8:12

Today a Savior is Born

Text: based on Luke 2:8-20, Lynn Shaw Bailey
Tune: Lynn Shaw Bailey
Text and Tune: © 2009 Choristers Guild.
All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.
Scripture references: Lk 2:8-20

A Christmas Lullaby

Arr.: Anna Laura Page
Tune: based on the hymn tunes IHR KINDERLEIN, KOMMET and STILL, STILL, STILL
Text and tune: © 2014 Lomez Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation.
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Hymn 341 – Away in a Manger

Text: (sts. 1-2): The Myrtle, Boston, 1884; (st. 3): Vineyard Songs, Louisville, 1892, alt.
Tune: CRADLE SONG, William Kirkpatrick, 1838-1921
Text and tune: Public Domain
Scripture references: Lk 2:7

Hush, My Babe, Lie Still and Slumber

Text: J.W.L., First line from Isaac Watts
Tune: Jody, W. Lindh, based on a Kentucky crol
Text and tune: © 1993 Choristers Guild.
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Hymn 337 – Silent Night, Holy Night

Text: Franz Joseph Mohr, 1792-1848; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885
Tune: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1787-1863; setting: traditional
Text and music: public domain
Scripture references: Lk 2:6-16; Col 1:13; Tit 2:11-14

Silent Night

Tune: STILLE NACHT, Handbell arrangement Susan E. Geschke
Tune: © 2005 Choristers Guild. All rights reserved.

Hymn 345 – Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919-2008
Tune: MANGER SONG, Carl F. Schalk, 1929-2021
Text: © Concordia Publishing House
Tune: © GIA Publications, Inc.
Scripture references: Lk 2:1-16

Hymn 352 – Joy Has Dawned

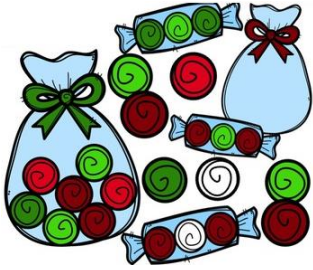
Text: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Stuart Townend, b. 1963
Tune: JOY HAS DAWNED, Keith Getty, b. 1974; Stuart Townend, b. 1963
Text and tune: Copyright © 2005 Thankyou Music (PRS) (adm. worldwide at www.CapitolCMGPublishing.com)
Scripture references: Lk 2:1-20; Mt 2:9-12; Mk 10:45; 2 Co 5:18-21

Hymn 353 – Joy to the World

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748
Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759, *adapt.*; setting: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872
Scripture references: Ps 98; Ge 3:17-19; Rev 22:1-5; Jn 1:17
Text and music: public domain

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Treat Bags

Children are invited to take a candy bag from the ushers as they leave church. Calvary students will receive their bags from their teachers following the service. Please accept this candy bag as a gift from our congregation. We ask that you do not open the candy bags until you are home so that we can keep our facilities clean.

We're Glad You're Here!

Welcome to our guests and visitors who have joined us for worship on this festival evening. A blessed Christmas to all of you!

“Glory to the newborn King!” The refrain of the familiar Christmas hymn invites us to proclaim that Christ is born in Bethlehem. With tonight’s service we celebrate God coming into the history of our earth in person - in the person of a baby born in Bethlehem. “This is my beloved Son!” God proclaimed this years later when Jesus arrived at the Jordan River at the time of His baptism. But already at the time of His birth, Jesus’ special nature was established as God in the flesh - in our human flesh! We express our thankfulness and our joy at that blessed coming!

If you would like to know more about Calvary, visit our website: calvarydallas.org

Large Print Service Folders

Large print service folders of this evening’s worship are available in the entry area. If you need assistance locating one, please ask an usher for help.

Our Facilities

Our restrooms are in the narthex toward the back right as you exit the sanctuary. The members of Calvary believe that families should be encouraged to worship together. If your young child needs some quiet time, we have audio/video available in the narthex and audio in the restrooms. If you need anything during the service, please feel free to ask an usher.