



The Calvary Chronicle

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

March 29, 2020

Volume 6, Issue 13

I AM THE
Resurrection
AND the *LIFE*

JOHN 11:25



LOOKING AT THE WEEK AHEAD

Today (3/29)	8:00a & 11:00a.....	Worship
	9:30a.....	Family Bible Hour
Wednesday (4/1)	7:00p.....	Lent Worship
Saturday (4/4)	6:00p.....	Worship

'Fear?'

Luke 12:32 "Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom."

Jesus calls us a little flock. That suggests we suffer from a certain poverty. Jesus' little group of disciples and followers seemed like an insignificant number of people compared to the vast world population. Do we feel the same? Even where churches are growing Christians are in the minority.

Nor are sheep the most powerful or assertive animals in the world. They aren't the roaring lions or crafty foxes of the animal kingdom. They are vulnerable, dependent, and defenseless. As Jesus' little flock of sheep, we perceive the same weaknesses in ourselves. We are vulnerable. Perhaps the year just past has exposed more of our personal vulnerabilities than we care to think about: health concerns, family struggles, financial worries. We are at the mercy of the changing world around us. Political uncertainties upset us. Uncontrollable forces of nature threaten us.

Our status as Jesus' little flock, his command that we not be afraid, suggest that there is an issue of trust with which we must struggle. In the context Jesus was speaking these words to his disciples. He knew that it was easy for them to worry about their earthly supply. He had taught them that God considered them incomparably more dear than the rest of his creation, things like birds or flowers. Despite this knowledge, they still found it difficult to be certain he would take care of them.

Our sin-sickened senses share the same fears. We withhold our trust. We base our conclusions on what we can see with our eyes instead of what God promises to our hearts. We may object that our fears are defensible, even sensible, but our lack of trust still calls for repentance.

Then Jesus leads us to look in the right direction to build that trust up again. "Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom." Look at what we have! Even before we look at the gift, look at the Giver! We have a Father who is pleased to give us things. It makes him happy to see us open his gifts. At Christmas you watched as your child or friend opened a gift you know they wanted. You saw their surprise and joy, their gasp or squeal, and it gave you a deep feeling of satisfaction.

The difference is that our Father is pleased to give us his gifts even when we look inside the box and we don't get it right away. We may react with a disappointed, "oh." That doesn't stop him. He keeps on giving generously. He keeps on being happy to do so.

Then there is the obvious difference in value. One Christmas a brand new car appeared in my neighbor's yard with a great big bow attached to the top, just like you see on TV. That is a worthless trinket compared to the gifts our Father gives. He is God, and his gifts literally cost him everything. God gives us himself, and the Lord of Lords and King of Kings becomes our Servant. God gives us his Son. He sacrifices the most precious life to save us from sin, and he doesn't resent the cost. He is only happy to give it.

That leads to the gift Jesus promises here. He says our Father has been pleased to give you and me the kingdom! Now don't we look silly worrying about something to eat or something to wear or how we are going to pay for things. We worry about plastic beads when all this time we have been holding gold and diamonds in our hands.

Remember the musical "Little Orphan Annie?" It's a bit schmaltzy, but it plays like a modern day fairy-tale: poor little orphan gets adopted by lonely, rich industrialist and they live happily ever after. Our real story is more amazing. It is more than rags to riches. The Lord of the universe has snatched us from death, cleansed us from sin, adopted us and made us the children of God. He has given us his kingdom as our very own. What, then, is left for us to fear?



Close Encounters with the Christ



The Lenten season offers a mixture of solemn and celebratory. Traditionally, the Church has gathered during the week (Wednesday evenings) to follow Jesus along the path of his passion (used in its root meaning of "suffering"). However, on Sundays the readings foreshadow the great victory of Jesus over sin, death and the devil accomplished by Jesus' death and resurrection.

The "mid-week" walk of Jesus in Lent is solemn. The "week-end" pace of Jesus in Lent is celebratory. Already we can see the end of the story as Jesus proves successful against every challenge or challenger. One challenger is Satan, others are people Jesus meets on the way, another is a person no longer alive. These instances aren't Jesus speaking to the crowds, but they are **Close Encounters with the Christ**. In each case, the Christ is victorious, anticipating his great victory on Easter.

First Sunday in Lent:	Christ and Satan
Second Sunday in Lent:	Christ and The Sinner
Third Sunday in Lent:	Christ and The Blind Man
Fourth Sunday in Lent:	Christ and the Arrogant Disciples
Fifth Sunday in Lent:	Christ and A Dead Man

Practical Tip for Personal Preparation: The life of Jesus is recorded by the four evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. A combination of their stories is called a "harmony". Various Harmonies of the Gospel exist in print and digital formats. Find a Harmony of Jesus' Passion History and use it as a supplement to your devotional readings during Lent. You can find examples at the following sites:

<http://wartburgproject.org/resources/passion-histories/>

<http://www.wlsessays.net/bitstream/handle/123456789/2969/LawrenzSufferings.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

<http://www.goodshepherd.nb.ca/Seasonal/Lent/BugenhagenPassionHarmony-FRONT.pdf> <http://www.goodshepherd.nb.ca/Seasonal/Lent/BugenhagenPassionHarmony-BACK.pdf>

Important...

COVID-19 UPDATES: Access up-to-date information and announcements from Calvary Lutheran Church & School at <https://calvarydallas.org/covid-19-updates/>



WORSHIP SERVICES: While this lasts, everyone is encouraged to join us online on our LiveStream page at <https://calvarydallas.org/church/resources/live-stream/> for our regular **Sunday Morning** worship at 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM, **Bible Study** at 9:30 AM, as well as **Midweek Lent Worship Service** at 7:00 PM.



MORNINGS WITH MOMMY: Has been suspended. Please, be on the lookout for dates on when we will be able to start up again!

MEETINGS: The **School Board** will meet **Thursday, April 16th at 7:00PM.** The **Endowment Fund Committee** will meet **Saturday, April 18th at 10:00AM.** Both will be via Google Hangouts. Please, refer to emails for more information on how to connect.



MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES: Have been suspended until further notice. Please stay up to date on all our email and website communications to find out when we will host again and be directed to alternative Bible Studies to do at home.

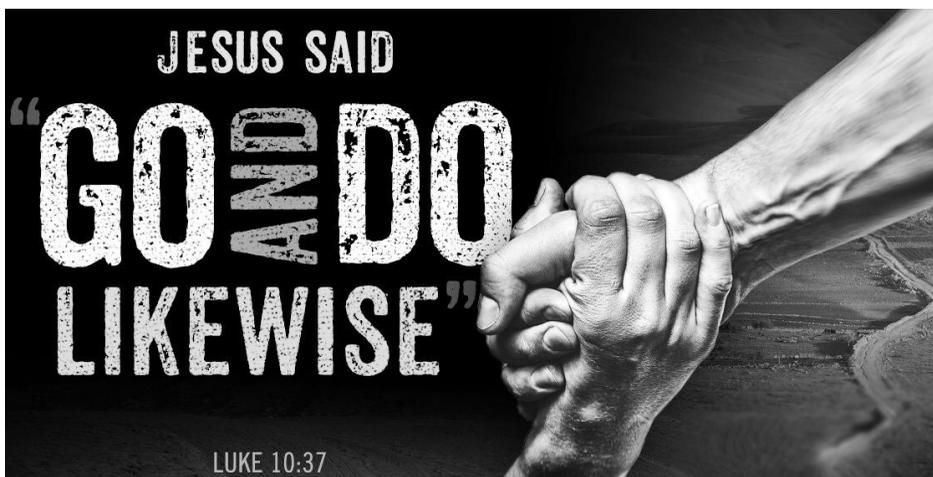
NAME BADGES: Are available now! Please send a note to the church office - churchsec@calvarydallas.org to be added to the list. We need at least 10 names before they can be made. The cost is \$10.00, payable upon delivery.

GARDENERS NEEDED: Have you ever built a raised bed garden? We would like to put in one or more raised bed gardens on church property. **We obtained seed money from Thrivent to support the effort, but are in need of volunteers to build the raised beds.** Why you might ask? Not only to add some color and plants to the property, but also have a learning opportunity for the kids. Pioneers will be planting a Pollinator Garden in late April and the school would have the ability to expand Science related activities. **If you have questions or would like to volunteer, contact Lee Witt at 214-336-9488 or leeawitt@gmail.com.**



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

Good Samaritan Fund



In Luke chapter 10, a teacher of the law asks Jesus the question,
“And who is my neighbor?” (Luke 10:29)

Jesus replies with the parable of the Good Samaritan,
which ends with the question, “Which of these three do you think was a
neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?” (Luke 10:36)

The teacher of the law correctly responds,
“The one who had mercy on him.”

Jesus then tells him, “Go and do likewise.” (Luke 10:37)

In the same way, Jesus also calls us to have compassion
and mercy on our neighbors.

**Calvary has a Good Samaritan fund available for those in need.
After helping many of our neighbors, it is now low in funds.**

**Please consider making a donation by marking your checks/envelopes
for the Good Samaritan Fund.**

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

Tentative Holy Week Worship



Palm Sunday, April 5th ONLINE ONLY
LiveStream at 8:00 AM & Rebroadcast at 11:00 AM

Maundy Thursday, April 9th
7:00 PM - Worship with Communion

Good Friday, April 10th
7:00 PM - Tenebrae Service



EASTER

Saturday, April 11th
6:00 PM - Evening Worship

Easter Sunday, April 12th
6:30 AM - Sunrise Worship
8:30 AM & 11:00 AM -
Festival Worship with Communion

Also, join us for **Breakfast at 7:30 AM**
Meat, Eggs, and Juice/Coffee will be provided.
You are invited to bring fruit
or pastries to share.



9:45 AM - Egg Hunt and Hymn Sing

Donations needed: Candy, trinkets, stickers, etc.
that are no larger than a regular size egg
(NO LOLLIPOPS) can be placed in the large
donation box in the Narthex.



Easter Egg Hunt

Today in Sunday School



This week in Sunday School you can study online, "The Triumphal Entry." Jesus' final week on earth begins with this grand entrance, but the week ends with His crucifixion and death. As a family, talk about, "*How did the people welcome Jesus to Jerusalem? How can we praise and honor God today?*"

1. Bible Story References: Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-10; Luke 19:29-38; John 12:12-15
2. Bible Story Video: <https://youtu.be/z-39h0xYqdE>
3. Bible Story Song: <https://youtu.be/uOgpwSM4D7M>
4. Bible Story Coloring Pages: <https://ministry-to-children.com/bible-coloring-pages/?fbclid=IwAR3XbtSqe3GyYqKC3EAYjMQ1iYiOmDqoo3yflLuuy4KCK3QQ164d9G2NNYy>



**& Birthdays
Anniversaries**

Dawn Hunt	3/29
Cadman Jackson	3/29
Chong Summers	3/30
Megan Smith	3/30
Seth Koelpin	3/30
Hayden Ramsey	3/30
Jessica Slater	4/02
Samantha Winters	4/02
Iniemem Edet	4/02
Mike Perkins	4/04

Rick & Sue Ellen Jackson

April 3rd, 1981

Our Response To the Word

IN TIME AND GIFTS:

Worshippers Last Weekend.....228 Online
Adult Bible Class/Sunday School.....59 Online
Given to the Glory of God for February 2020.....\$81,286
Needed monthly for God's Work.....\$76,657

IN TALENTS THIS WEEKEND:

Liturgist/Preacher.....Pastor John Koelpin
Organists.....Dawn Aswege
Wednesday.....Sarah Schemm
Next Week.....Saturday - Sue Stricker; Sunday - Dawn Aswege
Duty Elders.....8:00a - Larry Gray; 11:00a - Rick Jackson
Next Month.....8:00a - Brian Miller; 11:00a - David Bertram
Altar.....NA - Lent
Next Week.....Set-Up - Faith Barker; Clean-Up - Nancy Volkert
Greeters.....8:00a - B. Read/H. Ciejka; 11:00a - Newbold Family
Next Sunday.....8:00a - Barbour Family; 11:00a - J. Grimes/J. Huebner
Inside Cleaning:
4/4.....Witt/Hamilton/Aswege
4/11.....Schemm/Fritz/Perkins
4/18.....Koelpin

THIS SUNDAY AFTER WORSHIP:

Pre-K- Grade 6/Classrooms.....Peter Denies Jesus
Sanctuary.....Starting Point Class

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

First Lesson.....Zechariah 9:9,10
Psalm.....24
Second Lesson.....Philippians 2:5-11
Gospel Reading.....Matthew 21:1-11