



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES
Babbtown (Meta 8 am)
Schubert (Jefferson City 10 am)

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First Sunday in Lent
March 9, 2025

Order of Worship: Printed below
(with P for Pastor, C for Congregation)
or

found on page 15 in The Lutheran Hymnal TLH

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The Ringing Of The Bell

Prelude

Welcome

Prayer Upon Entering Church: p. 4, *TLH*

Almighty, ever-living God, grant that I may gladly hear Thy Word and that all my worship may be acceptable unto Thee; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Opening Hymn: TLH #257 "Jesus, Brightness of the Father" (*stand for last verse*)

**Jesus, Brightness of the Father, Life and Strength of all who live,
For creating guardian angels Glory to Thy name we give
And Thy wondrous praise rehearse, Singing in harmonious verse.**

**Blessed Lord, by their protection Shelter us from harm this day,
Keep us pure in flesh and spirit, Save us from the Foe, we pray,
And vouchsafe us by Thy grace In Thy Paradise a place.**

**△ Glory to th'almighty Father Sing we with the heav'nly host;
Glory to the great Redeemer, Glory to the Holy Ghost;
Three in one and One in Three, Throughout all eternity! Amen.**

Invocation: p. 15 [*Responses Sung*]

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: Who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C: And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

Confession: *[Spoken by all]*

ALL: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Absolution p. 16

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *[Sung]* Amen.

Introit

Gloria Patri: p.16 *[Sung]*

C: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

The Kyrie: p.17 *[Sung]*

C: **Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

[Note: The Gloria in Excelsis is omitted during Lent.]

Salutation and Response: p.19

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *[Sung]* **And with thy spirit.**

The Prayer Of The Day: *[Spoken by all]*

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Response *[Sung]*: Amen.

Old Testament Reading *Deuteronomy 26:1-11*

¹ "When you come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you for an inheritance and have taken possession of it and live in it, ² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place that the Lord your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there. ³ And you shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, 'I declare today to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our fathers to give us.' ⁴ Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the Lord your God. ⁵ "And you shall make response before the Lord your God, 'A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. ⁶ And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labor. ⁷ Then we cried to the Lord, the God of our fathers, and the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸ And the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. ⁹ And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O Lord, have given me.' And you shall set it down before the Lord your God and worship before the Lord your God. ¹¹ And you shall rejoice in all the good that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house, you, and the Levite, and the sojourner who is among you.

Epistle

Romans 10:9-13

⁹ because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹ For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³ For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

[Note: The Triple Hallelujah is omitted during Lent.]

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 4th chapter.

C: *[Sung]* **Glory be to Thee, O Lord!**

The Gospel Reading

Luke 4:1-13

¹ And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness ² for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. ³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." ⁴ And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.'" ⁵ And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, ⁶ and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will." ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸ And Jesus answered him, "It is written, " 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.' " ⁹ And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written, " 'He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,' ¹¹ and " 'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'" ¹² And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³ And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

P: Here ends the reading of the Holy Gospel.

C: *[Sung]* **Praise be to Thee, O Christ!**

Confession of Faith: *(Spoken together)*

Martin Luther's Explanation to the 2nd Article of the Apostles' Creed

Luther's explanation is a beautiful short statement of the Gospel. He conveys the unbounded joy associated with this good news by placing it in the context of an individual hearing it for the first time. All Jesus did was done "for me."

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord...What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

Hymn of the Day: TLH #438 "Almighty Father, Heaven and Earth" *(stand for last verse)*

**Almighty Father, heav'n and earth With lavish wealth before Thee bow;
Those treasures owe to Thee their birth, Creator, Ruler, Giver, Thou.**

**The wealth of earth, of sky, of sea, The gold, the silver, sparkling gem,
The waving corn, the bending tree, Are Thine; to us Thou lendest them.**

**To Thee, as early morning's dew, Our praises, alms, and prayer shall rise
As rose, when joyous earth was new, Faith's patriarchal sacrifice.**

**We, Lord, would lay, at Thy behest The costliest off'rings on Thy shrine;
But when we give, and give our best, We give Thee only what is Thine.**

△ **O Father, whence all blessings come; O Son, Dispenser of God's store;
O Spirit, bear our off'rings home: Lord, make them Thine forevermore. Amen.**

Sermon: “Bringing Our Offerings” Text: Deuteronomy 26:9-10

(The Offerings are brought forward. Offering plates are at the entrances.)

Offertory p. 22 *[Sung]*

C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; And uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Prayers

THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

[We invite those who are communicant members of sister Lutheran Congregations, in the fellowship of LC-MS, and are repentant, to commune with us.]

The Preface: p. 24 *[Responses Sung]*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And with thy spirit.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C: **It is meet and right so to do.**

P: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God ... therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

The Sanctus: p. 26 *[Sung]*

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory;
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, Blessed is He,
Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna,
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Lord's Prayer: p. 27

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name;
Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil;**

[Sung] **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Institution:

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

The Pax Domini: p. 27

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: *[Sung]* **A - - - - men.**

The Agnus Dei: p. 28 [Sung]

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, Grant us Thy peace.

A - - - men.

The Distribution

Distribution Hymns: TLH #442 "Lord of Glory, Who Hast Bought Us"

**Lord of Glory, who hast bo't us With Thy life-blood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice;
And with that hast freely given Blessings countless as the sand
To th'unthankful and the evil With Thine own unsparing hand;**

**Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to yield Thee Gladly, freely, of Thine own;
With the sunshine of Thy goodness Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures, Warmed by Thee, at length believe
That more happy and more blessed 'Tis to give than to receive.**

**Wondrous honor hast Thou given To our humblest charity
In Thine own mysterious sentence, "Ye have done it unto Me."
Can it be, O gracious Master, Thou dost deign for alms to sue,
Saying by Thy poor and needy, "Give as I have giv'n to you"?**

**Yes, the sorrow and the sufferings Which on every hand we see
Channels are for gifts and offerings Due by solemn right to Thee;
Right of which we may not rob Thee, Debt we may not choose but pay,
Lest that face of love and pity Turn from us another day.**

**Lord of Glory, who hast bought us With Thy life-blood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust Thee boldly, Hope, to stay our souls on Thee;
But, oh! best of all Thy graces, Give us Thine own charity. Amen.**

TLH #427 "How Firm a Foundation"

**How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He hath said,
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?**

**In ev'ry condition--in sickness, in health,
In poverty's vale, or abounding in wealth,
At home and abroad, on the land, on the sea--
The Lord, the Almighty, thy strength e'er shall be.**

**"Fear not, I am with thee, oh, be not dismayed;
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.**

**"When thro' the deep waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be with thee thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.**

**"When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie,
My grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply.
The flames shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.**

**"E'en down to old age all My people shall prove
My sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;
And when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn,
Like lambs they shall still in My bosom be borne.**

**"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!" Amen.**

The Nunc Dimittus: p. 29 [Sung]

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy Word,
For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation:
which Thou hast prepared before the Face of all people,
a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

The Thanksgiving: p. 30

P: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

C: [Sung] And His mercy endureth forever.

The Thanksgiving Prayer: pp, 30-31

**P: We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift;
and we beseech You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith
towards You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who
lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.**

C: [Sung] A- - - - men.

The Benedicamus: p. 31

P: The Lord be with you.

C: [Sung] And with thy spirit.

P: Bless we the Lord.

C: [Sung] Thanks be to God.

The Benediction: p. 31

**P: The Lord bless you and keep you, The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be
gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.**

C: [Sung] Amen, Amen, Amen!

A Prayer at the Close of Service: p. 4, TLH

**Grant, I beseech Thee, Almighty God, that the Word which I have heard this day may
through Thy grace be so engrafted in my heart that I may bring forth the fruit of the
Spirit; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.**

Closing Hymn: TLH #468 "For All Thy Saints, O Lord"

**For all Thy saints, O Lord, Who strove in Thee to live,
Who followed Thee, obeyed, adored, Our grateful hymn receive.**

**For all Thy saints, O Lord, Who strove in Thee to die,
Who counted Thee their great Reward, Accept our thankful cry.**

**They all in life and death, With Thee, their Lord, in view,
Learned from Thy Holy Spirit's breath To suffer and to do.**

**For this Thy name we bless And humbly pray that we
May follow them in holiness And live and die in Thee. Amen.**

Silent Prayer

Announcements

Have A Blessed Week!

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BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS: Schubert - Roger Schroeder, Haley Kelly, Mason Mistler, Linda Brenner & Haylee Toerper.

PASTOR: Rev. Bart Mueller.

ORGANISTS: Babbtown – Kathy Bauer; Schubert – Keith Bohl.

USHERS this Sunday: Mike Forbis & John Hanes.

USHERS next Sunday: Mike Forbis & Skyler Haslag.

GREETERS this Sunday: Mary Vida, front. Mary Kuhlmann, side.

GREETERS next Sunday: Jennifer Hanes, front. Robert & Donna Skelly, side.

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Jim Forbis & Allan Forbis.

ACOLYTE this Sunday: Matthew Kollmeyer.

ACOLYTE next Sunday: Mason Mistler.

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A WARM WELCOME to each of you in the Name of Jesus. We are glad to have you worshipping with us this morning.

We pray that the Holy Spirit will strengthen and refresh you in your Christian walk of faith, as we feed together on God's Word and Sacrament.

If you are a guest we greet you with special joy. Please be sure to introduce yourself, sign the guest register, and come back soon.

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:

- Kevin Green, hospitalized at Capital Region.
- Dennis and Carolyn Schubert, recovering from surgeries and the flu.
- Kurt Boeckmann's mom, Agnes, hospitalized with an infection.

TODAY: BABBTOWN is having a Thrivent Action project after worship. Meet over at the school to lend a hand in helping others this day.

CHOIR PRACTICE after worship at Schubert.

WEDNESDAY: Confirmation & Weekday Classes, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Lenten Wednesday Worship at Schubert, 7:00 p.m.

THANK YOU to everyone who attended the Youth Group's Pancake Lunch last Sunday! There was a great turnout,

THRIVENT MEMBERS – Everyone who has Thrivent accounts is eligible to share \$250 from Thrivent to a project of their choice. You may even have additional charity dollars to give away. Consider St. John's as a place to use these gifts, by signing up for an "Action Project" or "Choice Dollars." We can use these in a variety of places and purposes, so talk with Pastor Mueller if you want to use these opportunities to support St. John's Babbtown or Schubert, or want to know how they work.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS is at 9:30 am. Come to church early as we look in the weeks leading up to Easter places where Jesus showed "amazing grace."

FULL TIME 4TH GRADE TEACHING POSITION: Immanuel Lutheran School, Honey Creek, is looking for a full time teacher for their 4th grade classroom. They would be responsible for teaching 4th grade students, homeroom duties, and other areas concerning the management of a classroom. If you are interested please contact the school office (573-496-3766) or email Mr. Kopp (principal@midmoimmanuel.com).

ANY NEWS, INFORMATION, REQUESTS or communications for the churches can be made by leaving a message on the church phone: 573-395-4591. Generally all messages are checked daily. You can also email the church at stjohnslutheranjcmo@gmail.com – and if you have any questions or concerns, we will respond as needed. If you need pastoral assistance right away, you can call Pastor Mueller at 507-360-8033.

LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH YEAR: Abortion and assisted suicide enact idolatry by assessing life apart from the Word of the Lord (Luke 4:4, 8). Saving faith, on the other hand, receives both child and trials as riches from the loving hand of God. He who makes hills give milk and honey will no doubt bring forth even better blessings from the humblest human life!

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: Sunday – Babbtown, 24. Schubert, 81. Ash Wednesday – 63.

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**Thanks be to God that we have the opportunity to gather in worship each week.
Make worship and Bible Study and the Lord’s Supper a high priority in your life.**

Babbtown

Schubert

**8:00 a.m. Worship Service
9:10 a.m. Sunday School
and Adult Bible Study**

**9:15 am. Sunday School
9:30 a.m. Bible Study
10:00 a.m. Worship Service**

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Cover pic artwork: Allan Forbis

The Lutheran Hymnal: St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, © 1941.

Hymn # 257: Scripture: Psalm 91:11; Tibi, Christe, splendor Patris; Jesus, Brightness of the Father; Author: Rhabanus Maurus (856, asc.); Translator: Edward Caswall (1849, alt.); Tune: Neander; Composer: Joachim Neander, 1680.

Hymn # 438: Scripture: 1 Peter 4:10; Almighty Father, Heaven and Earth; Author: Edward A. Dayman (1867, alt); Tune: O heilige Dreifaltigkeit; Composer: Nikolaus Herman (1560).

Hymn # 442: Scripture: Acts 20:35; Lord Of Glory, Who Hast Bought Us; Author: Eliza S. Alderson (1864); Tune: Hyfrydol; Composer: Rowland H. Prichard († 1887, alt.).

Hymn # 427: Scripture: Isaiah 43:1-7; How Firm A Foundation, Ye Saints Of The Lord; Author: “Keen” (1778, alt.); Tune: Firm Foundation; Composer: Bernard Schumacher (1931).

Hymn # 468: Scripture: Revelation 7:15; For All Thy Saints, O Lord; Author: Richard Mant (1837, cento); Tune: Energy; Composer: William H. Monk (1861).

Bible Readings: The Holy Bible, English Standard Version. ESV® Text Edition: 2016. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.

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Wednesday Lenten Worship 2025
Main Theme: The Joy of Lent

Join us at St. John’s Schubert, Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.!

March 12:	<u>Jesus in Charge</u>	John 18:2-11
March 19:	<u>That Forsaken Feeling</u>	Hebrews 13:5-6
March 26:	<u>Don’t Cry</u>	Luke 23:25-31
April 2:	<u>Were You There?</u>	Ephesians 2:12-14
April 9:	<u>How Do You Feel?</u>	Luke 4:30-32

While Lent is a time of considering our sin and death, and Christ’s suffering and sacrifice, it is not a season of sadness. It is a time of serious joy, a peace that can only come through the battle Jesus fought for our soul and won!

Join our church family at St. John’s for worship and reflection, and take this spirit of joy with you all the way to Easter Sunday April 20th.

CALVARY NEWS



CALVARY INSIDER – Wondering what went on at Calvary this week?

- The spring sports season has begun! Practices and preparations began on Monday.
- Students and their families had an opportunity to meet with teachers on Monday after school for Parent Teacher Conferences.
- The senior class visited the state Capitol on Tuesday as part of Government class.
- Thank you to everyone that came out to the Boosters Association Pasta Dinner!

5TH & 6TH GRADE GAME NIGHT – Calling all 5th and 6th grade students! Join us THIS FRIDAY, March 14th from 6-8pm at Calvary Lutheran High School for one of our favorite events...GAME NIGHT! We will have games of every kind set up - dodgeball, gaga ball, 9-Square, a Nerf Battle and E-sports to name a few. The event is FREE! Pizza and drinks will be provided for all attendees, and chaperones will be present for the entire event. Visit linktr.ee/calvarylhs to register your students today!

BE PART OF THE TEAM – Calvary is seeking mission-minded individuals to complete the team.

- Part-time weekend Custodian, needed immediately.
- Part-time Outreach Coordinator
- Part-time Athletic Director, beginning summer 2025

Applications can be submitted to John Christman at administrator@calvarylhs.org or 2525 Route B, Jefferson City, MO 65101

CRIMSON & SILVER DINNER AUCTION – Tickets are available for the 2025 Crimson and Silver Dinner Auction at the St. Martin's Knights of Columbus Hall on Saturday, April 26, beginning at 4:00pm. Ticket price is \$50 per person, and tables of 8 are available for \$375. Purchase tickets online at www.calvarylhs.org/auction.

BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT – Calvary's 21st Annual Benefit Golf Tournament will be Friday, May 30th at Tanglewood Golf Course in Fulton. Start putting your team together now for a fun day supporting students at Calvary Lutheran High School! If you are interested in helping to plan this event, contact John Christman at 573-638-0228 for more information. Teams can register at calvarylhs.org/golftournament.

SAVE THE DATE –

Apr 11-12	Calvary Baseball Tournament
Apr 26	Crimson & Silver Dinner Auction
May 2	FFA Petting Zoo
May 2	Spring Concert, 7PM
May 24	Graduation, 10AM

BRINGING OUR OFFERINGS – Deuteronomy 26:9-10

And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O Lord, have given me.' And you shall set it down before the Lord your God and worship before the Lord your God.

Introduction – Are we “givers” or “keepers?”

1. When Moses brought the people out of slavery, God wanted them to be “givers”
 - a. Life was tough out in the desert
 - b. Their survival depended on them sharing things
 - c. God wanted them to understand giving so they could understand God's love
2. Jesus came into the world to give himself to us
 - a. He was tempted to keep what he had to himself
 - b. God himself didn't have a lot of reasons to share what he had with you
 - c. Jesus kept nothing back, but “emptied” himself because he loved you
3. Christ wants us to be “givers”
 - a. God doesn't need our gifts
 - b. God wants us to realize that all things come from him, our Creator
 - c. Jesus wants us to understand what he has given to us

Conclusion – We have plenty of blessings and life to give away to others