

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
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December 4, 2022 ✝ Second Sunday in Advent

St. John's Lutheran Church is a supporting congregation Calvary Lutheran High School, Jefferson City, 638-0228.

Today the paraments are blue as we begin a new church year with the season of Advent. This is not “pre-Christmas”; we look forward to Christ’s return to judge the living and the dead even as we remember those who looked forward to Christ’s first advent more than 2000 years ago.

The Lord’s Supper is celebrated today. If you have been instructed and confirmed in the Lutheran faith and believe that with the bread and wine Christ gives you His true body and blood for the forgiveness of your sins and belong to the LCMS fellowship, you are invited to join in this blessed Sacrament. Gluten-free wafers are available; speak with Pastor or an elder prior to worship. (If you are desiring to commune for the first time at St. John’s as a Lutheran or you are a non-Lutheran, **please see the pastor prior to the service**).

Last Sunday, November 27, 2022:

Attendance: 91 / 4 (livestream)

Sunday School / Adult Bible Class / LYF: 21 / 15 / 4

Offerings: \$2663 / \$2.25 / \$336 (electronic)

Thanksgiving, November 24, 2022:

Attendance: 28/2; Offering: \$354 / \$2

Calvary Lutheran High School News and Information

CALVARY INSIDER – What happened at Calvary last week you ask?

- Calvary's Student Government successfully led the student body through FaithFest on Wednesday – with the theme of our identity in Christ.
- Students are "buckling down" for the last three weeks before first semester finals.

THANK YOU! – We were blessed by the many gifts that were shared in the month of November. Over \$27,000 was given to help students contrast a Biblical vs a secular worldview to create a clear witness of Jesus! It's not too late. Every gift, no matter the size, makes a difference. Please consider Calvary in your year-end giving plans.

CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF CHRIST – The Advent season is upon us, and the annual Calvary Christmas Concert is THIS WEEK Friday, December 9th! Join us at 7:00 p.m. to enjoy pieces performed by the Calvary Choir and Band!

2022-2023 REGISTRATION BONUS – Registration is OPEN for the 2023-2024 school year! Incoming 8th graders and current 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students can already register for next year! When you apply or re-register for next school year with your \$100 registration fee by January 3, 2023, you will receive a \$50 credit toward your student's '23-'24 tuition. **REGISTER TODAY!**

CHRISTMAS LIST – Check out the stocking stuffer ideas that would bless Calvary this Christmas season. You can see a full "Wish List" posted on our website at CalvaryLHS.org/wishlist. Contact Calvary (638-0228) to help with any of these items.

SAVE THE DATE –

Jan. 6-7 Calvary Girls Basketball Tournament

Jan. 12-14 Calvary Archery Tournament

Feb. 3-4 Calvary Boys Basketball Tournament

Happening at St. John's:

The 3rd Annual Saint Paul Christkindlesmarkt is next weekend! See the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

As we begin a new church year, we begin by preparing ourselves to celebrate Jesus' birth. This preparation is not about food and presents, but about preparing our hearts. We will have a special Advent service on Wednesday, December 14, at 7pm. On Christmas Eve, we gather for the Children's Christmas Program at 7pm and again at 9pm for a Service of Lessons and Carols (both with candlelight at the end). On Christmas morning, we celebrate the Divine Service at 9am (instead of 10am), and will not have Sunday School.

“Christmas is also a time to contemplate the gift of mortal LIFE through the miracle of birth. Christmas is the gift of LOVE that moms and dads shower on their children by saying yes to life—sometimes under very difficult circumstances. Regardless of the challenges, God has a perfect plan for each life that He brings into the world, and His will for them is to out-sparkle and out-shine any ornament.” *Bradley Mattes, president of Life Issues Institute – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

MORE TOPICS, MORE GUESTS, MORE JESUS... Issues, Etc. is a radio-talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: Decision Theology; The Incarnation of God & the Value of Man; 4th-Century Bishop Nicholas of Myra; Man & the Metaverse and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

This week:

Sunday, 12/4	9am	Sunday School / Adult Bible Class / LYF
	10am	Divine Service
		Sunday School Christmas Prog Practice
Tues, 12/6	7pm	Elders' meeting
Wed, 12/7	4:30pm	Confirmation Class
Thurs, 12/8	7pm	Adult Information Class
Sunday, 12/11	9am	Sunday School / Adult Bible Class / LYF
	10am	Divine Service
		Sunday School Christmas Prog Practice

Confession and Absolution

346 When All the World Was Cursed

- 1 When all the world was cursed
By Moses' condemnation,
Saint John the Baptist came
With words of consolation.
With true forerunner's zeal
The greater One he named,
And Him, as yet unknown,
As Savior he proclaimed.

- 2 Before he yet was born,
He leaped in joyful meeting,
Confessing Him as Lord
Whose mother he was greeting.
By Jordan's rolling stream,
A new Elijah bold,
He testified of Him
Of whom the prophets told:

- 3 Behold the Lamb of God
That bears the world's transgression,
Whose sacrifice removes
The devil's dread oppression.
Behold the Lamb of God,
Who takes away our sin,
Who for our peace and joy
Will full atonement win.

- 4 O grant, dear Lord of love,
That we receive, rejoicing,
The word proclaimed by John,
Our true repentance voicing,
That gladly we may walk
Upon our Savior's way
Until we live with Him
In His eternal day.

Text: Johann Gottfried Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Paul E. Kretzmann, 1883–1965, alt.

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Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Exhortation

LSB 184

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.

P 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 You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

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

Absolution

LSB 185

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 Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 105:4–8; antiphon: Isaiah 40:3b

In the wilderness prepare the way | of the LORD;*
make straight in the desert a highway | for our God.
Seek the LORD | and his strength;*
seek his presence con- | tinually!
Remember the wondrous works that | he has done,*
his miracles, and the judgments he | uttered,
O offspring of Abraham, his | servant,*
children of Jacob, his | chosen ones!

He is the | LORD our God;*
his judgments are in | all the earth.
He remembers his covenant for- | ever,*
the word that he commanded, for a thousand gener- | ations.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
In the wilderness prepare the way | of the LORD;*
make straight in the desert a highway | for our God.

Kyrie

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 11:1–10

¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;

and a little child shall lead them.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

⁹They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 15:4–13

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,
and sing to your name.”

¹⁰And again it is said,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

¹¹And again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples extol him.”

¹²And again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse will come,
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;
in him will the Gentiles hope.”

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

C Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:1–12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea,
²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” ³For this is he who was spoken of by
the prophet Isaiah when he said,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.’”

⁴Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his
food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region
about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river
Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he
said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?
⁸Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not presume to say to yourselves,
‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise
up children for Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every
tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is
mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the
Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his
threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with
unquenchable fire.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostles’ Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Sit

344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

- 1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of kings!
- 2 Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;
Make straight the way for God within,
And let us all our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.
- 3 We hail Thee as our Savior, Lord,
Our refuge and our great reward;
Without Thy grace we waste away
Like flow'rs that wither and decay.
- 4 Lay on the sick Thy healing hand
And make the fallen strong to stand;
Show us the glory of Thy face
Till beauty springs in ev'ry place.
- △ 5 All praise, eternal Son, to Thee
Whose advent sets Thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Spirit evermore.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite
Text: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Offertory / Presentation of Offering

LSB 192

- ☞ 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.**

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the Holy Church, that God would continually feed her with His Word and Sacraments as she looks for Christ's return, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the Church, that pastors would continually prepare the way for Jesus' return in glory by preaching Law and Gospel; and that congregations would hear their words in faith, for Chaplain Sippy and Chaplain Jim, for missionaries Gudula "Lula" Tiewes, Linda Becker, Anita Clausing, and Eva Rickman, and for military chaplains Joseph Watson and Richard Rudnik, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For families, that they would faithfully fulfill their vocations to love and forgive one another, even as they grow in the fear, love and trust of the Lord, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For civil authorities, that they would govern with justice and righteousness as leaders appointed by God to protect the innocent, punish the wicked and work for the common welfare of all, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who serve in our nation's military, including Chandler Amick, and all who work far from families, that they would be strengthened by God's Word, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For students, as they finish up classes for a semester, especially those in college away from family, that they would apply themselves diligently to their studies, and would be comforted by God's Word through stress, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the sick and suffering, [*especially Paula Scheperle, Lois Belshe, Addy Beinlich, Cindy Eggen, Troy Schepmann, and the family of Billy Duncan*],

that as the day draws near when the wolf will dwell alongside the lamb and pain and destruction will be no more, God would grant them patience, comfort and healing according to His will, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all who commune this day, that their hearts would be stirred up to make ready the way of the Lord Jesus, who comes in His body and blood, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P Grant, heavenly Father, that we may be kept in joy and sustained in hope through every trouble and trial of this mortal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194

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.

Proper Preface

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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195

C 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.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

P 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."

Pax Domini

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

C 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. Amen.

Sit

Distribution

620 Jesus Comes Today with Healing

- 1 Jesus comes today with healing,
Knocking at my door, appealing,
Off'ring pardon, grace, and peace.
He Himself makes preparation,
And I hear His invitation:
"Come and taste the blessed feast."
- 2 Christ Himself, the priest presiding,
Yet in bread and wine abiding
In this holy sacrament,
Gives the bread of life, once broken,

And the cup, the precious token
Of His sacred covenant.

3 Under bread and wine, though lowly,
I receive the Savior holy,
Blood and body, giv'n for me,
Very Lamb of God from heaven,
Who to bitter death was given,
Hung upon the cursèd tree.

4 God descends with heav'nly power,
Gives Himself to me this hour
In this ordinary sign.
On my tongue His pledge receiving,
I accept His grace, believing
That I taste His love divine.

5 Let me praise God's boundless favor,
Whose own feast of love I savor,
Bidden by His gracious call.
Wedding garments He provides me,
With a robe of white He hides me,
Fits me for the royal hall.

6 Now have I found consolation,
Comfort in my tribulation,
Balm to heal the troubled soul.
God, my shield from ev'ry terror,
Cleanses me from sin and error,
Makes my wounded spirit whole.

Text: Heinrich Puchta, 1808–58; tr. David W. Rogner, 1960

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359 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

1 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
As prophets long have sung,
It came, a flow'ret bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night.

2 Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The rose I have in mind;
With Mary we behold it,
The virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
She bore to us a Savior,
When half-spent was the night.

3 This flow'r, whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor
The darkness ev'rywhere.
True man, yet very God,
From sin and death He saves us
And lightens ev'ry load.

4 O Savior, child of Mary,
Who felt our human woe;
O Savior, King of glory,
Who dost our weakness know:
Bring us at length we pray
To the bright courts of heaven,
And to the endless day.

Text (sts. 1–2): tr. Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, alt.; (sts. 1–2, 4): German, 16th cent.; (st. 3): Friedrich L. C. Layriz, 1808–59; (st. 3): tr. Harriet R. K. Spaeth, 1845–1925; (st. 4): tr. John C. Mattes, 1876–1948
Text: Public domain

936 Sing Praise to the God of Israel

1 Sing praise to the God of Israel!
Sing praise for His visitation!
Redeeming His people from their sin,
Accomplishing their salvation,
Upraising a mighty horn within
The house of His servant David!

2 God spoke by the prophets long ago,
His promise on oath recalling—
To Abraham made in former years:
Of vanquishing foes appalling,
That those He delivered from their fears
Might gladly and truly serve Him.

3 You, child, will go on before the Lord
As prophet, His way preparing;
To speak on behalf of God Most High,
His counsel of truth declaring:
Rich mercy and grace for all whereby
Iniquity is forgiven.

4 O bright, rising Sun, now shine on us
In need of illumination;
Come scatter the shades of sin and death
And shatter their domination.
Be guiding our footsteps on the path
Of peace, in Your presence dawning!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

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*Stand**In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:***The Dismissal***LSB 199*

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ☩ in peace.
- C** Amen.

Nunc Dimittis*LSB 199*

- C** 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.

Thanksgiving*LSB 200*

- A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth forever.

Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray.
 We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Salutation*LSB 201*

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus*LSB 202*

- A** Bless we the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction*LSB 202*

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
 The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.
- C** Amen, amen, amen.

347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

- 1 “Comfort, comfort ye My people,
 Speak ye peace,” thus saith our God;
“Comfort those who sit in darkness,
 Mourning ’neath their sorrows’ load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem
Of the peace that waits for them;
 Tell her that her sins I cover
 And her warfare now is over.”

- 2 Yea, her sins our God will pardon,
 Blotting out each dark misdeed;
All that well deserved His anger
 He no more will see or heed.
She hath suffered many_a day,
Now her griefs have passed away;
 God will change her pining sadness
 Into ever-springing gladness.

- 3 Hark, the herald’s voice is crying
 In the desert far and near,
Calling sinners to repentance,
 Since the Kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
 Let the valleys rise to meet Him
 And the hills bow down to greet Him.

- 4 Make ye straight what long was crooked;
 Make the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble,
 As befits His holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
Now o’er earth is shed abroad,
 And all flesh shall see the token
 That His Word is never broken.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Text: Public domain

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