

Last Week (1/3) WH – 51 **(1/8)** WH – 75 **Total Offering = \$2,321**

General = \$1,871 | CLC Missions = \$50 | Tuition = \$350 | Building = \$50

Usher: Seger **Cleaner (1/16):** Rodebaugh **Acolyte (1/17):** Landon

Mon Isaiah 49:1-6 The speaker in verses 1 and 2 (and again in verses 5 and 6) is Jesus, while the speaker in verses 3 and 4 is Isaiah. It figures, for Jesus is the *Light of the Gentiles, salvation unto the ends of the Earth, and Jehovah's Son* (5). Moreover, God wanted ancient Israelites to know that He had prepared Jesus deliberately and generously (1-2) to *raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the preserved ones of Israel* (6). God is generous!

Looking Ahead...

- ✠ Jan. 10: Orlando Service 8 am
- ✠ Jan. 13: Zoom Bible Class 6:30 pm
- ✠ Jan. 17: Masks-on Service 9 am

Tues Mark 1:4-11 takes us to the Jordan valley, and we watch from the side-lines while John baptizes

Jesus. Now, for what purpose or function was Jesus baptized? Well, a) the Spirit's descent, b) God the Father's blessing, and c) the baptism all work together for Jesus' inaugural ceremony as God's chosen Servant for the public good.

Wed Acts 16:25-34 We see a deeper meaning—when other doors were opened and other chains loosed, for those miracles opened human hearts to God. Which led to the question, *“What must I do to be saved?”* and to the answer, *“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ!”* Next came a Bible class (32), then conversion (between verses 32 and 33) marked by Christian baptism and humble service given lovingly to God's spokesmen (33-34).

Thurs Psalm 2 provides perspective as our generation slides downhill—and that's hardly due to the pandemic. *“Why?”* is a good question. For what good reason do people rebel against God and choose their own downfall? None at all! Now then, since Jehovah is still God, and Jesus is still His Son, dominant over Earth (8-9), it would be better for humans to seek His favor (10-12).

Fri Matthew 3:13-17 For what good purpose did Jesus meet up with Baptizer John? Since Jesus was sinless (14), remission of sins couldn't be the point of His baptism. Rather, this baptism would fulfill a specific and special factor in God's great salvation enterprise; we see that the time had arrived for Jesus to become inaugurated into His public ministry, with Holy Spirit support and the Father's benediction. Timing is important in everything.

Sat Acts 19:33-41 There was/is nothing trivial about Christian witnessing, especially when the apostles were under attack by religious fanatics who staged a street riot (33-34). Since the timing was right, God made use of a city official (even though he was an idolater) to put a lid on it. He presented the fair assessment that the missionaries were not criminals, and if someone wanted to press charges, lawyers and courts were available. Evidently nobody put God to the test—and we come full circle back to Psalm 2.

January 10, 2021

Epiphany

Organ: Teresa Bernthal

Usher: Paul Seger

Acolyte: Grant Ream



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PRE-SERVICE DEVOTION

Psalm 72:1-11

¹ Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart. ² But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled, my steps had nearly slipped. ³ For I was envious of the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. ⁴ For they have no pangs until death; their bodies are fat and sleek. ⁵ They are not in trouble as others are; they are not stricken like the rest of mankind. ⁶ Therefore pride is their necklace; violence covers them as a garment. ⁷ Their eyes swell out through fatness; their hearts overflow with follies. ⁸ They scoff and speak with malice; loftily they threaten oppression. ⁹ They set their mouths against the heavens, and their tongue struts through the earth. ¹⁰ Therefore his people turn back to them, and find no fault in them. ¹¹ And they say, "How can God know? Is there knowledge in the Most High?"

✠ Order of Divine Worship ✠

OPENING PRAYER

P Pastor

C Congregation

HYMN: TLH #129 "Hail, Thou Source of Every Blessing"

1. Hail, Thou Source of every blessing, Sovereign Father of mankind! Gentiles now, Thy grace possessing, In Thy courts admission find. Grateful now we fall before Thee, In Thy Church obtain a place, Now by faith behold Thy glory, Praise Thy truth, adore Thy grace.
2. Once far off, but now invited, We approach Thy sacred throne; In Thy covenant united, Reconciled, redeemed, made one. Now revealed to Eastern sages, See the Star of Mercy shine; Mystery hid in former ages, Mystery great of love divine.
3. Hail, Thou all-inviting Savior! Gentiles now their offerings bring; In Thy temples seek Thy favor, Jesus Christ, our Lord and King. May we, body, soul, and spirit, Live devoted to Thy praise, Glorious realms of bliss inherit, Grateful anthems ever raise!

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

C **A - - - men.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

- 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.**

with great joy. ¹¹ And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

"The Days of Herod the King" Bring Only Darkness

"The Days of Jesus the King" Bring Light to Those in Darkness

OFFERTORY

- 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.**

HYMN: TLH #127:1-2, 4

"As With Gladness Men of Old"

1. As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold; As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright, So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore be led by Thee!
2. As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to Thy lowly bed, There to bend the knee before Thee whom heaven and earth adore, So may we with willing feet Ever seek Thy mercy-seat!
4. Holy Jesus, every day Keep us in the narrow way; And when earthly things are past. Bring our ransomed souls at last Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

PRAYERS & the BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

- 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 His peace.
- C** **♪ Amen, amen, a – men.**

HYMN: TLH #343:1-2

"How Lovely Shines the Morning Star"

1. How lovely shines the Morning Star! The nations see and hail afar The light in Judah shining. Thou David's Son of Jacob's race, My Bridegroom and my King of Grace, For Thee my heart is pining. Lowly, Holy, Great and glorious, Thou victorious Prince of graces, Filling all the heavenly places.
2. O highest joy by mortals won, True Son of God and Mary's Son, Thou high-born King of ages! Thou art my heart's most beautiful Flower, And Thy blest Gospel's saving power My raptured soul engages. Thou mine, I Thine; Sing hosanna! Heavenly manna Tasting, eating, Whilst Thy love in songs repeating.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

HYMN: TLH #126:1-3 "Arise and Shine in Splendor"

1. Arise and shine in splendor, Let night to day surrender;
They light is drawing near, Above thee day is beaming
In matchless beauty gleaming; The glory of the Lord is here.
2. See earth in darkness lying, The heathen nations dying
In hopeless gloom and night. To thee the lord of heaven -
Thy life, they hope hath given Great glory, honor and delight.
3. The World's remotest races, Upon whose weary faces
The sun looks from the sky, Shall run with zeal untiring,
With joy thy light desiring That breaks upon them from on high.

SERMON – Matthew 2:1-12 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." ³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: ⁶ "'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'" ⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." ⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly

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

C ♪ **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

P Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He gives power to become the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C ♪ **A - - - men.**

INTROIT

Ps. 45:6-8; 17

P I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations; therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.

C **Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness; you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.**

P Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions; your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.

C **I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations; therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.**



KEEP SEEKING HIM

GLORIA PATRI

Latin for "Glory be to the Father"

☐ Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Matthew 2:2

☐ Alleluia. Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him. Alleluia.

THE KYRIE

Latin for "O Lord"

☐ Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

TLH #237:1

☐ ♪ All glory be to God on high, Who hath our race befriended! To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended. God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on earth again; O thank Him for His goodness!

☐ Let us pray. . . . and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☐ ♪ A - - - men.

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Isaiah 60:1-6 Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ² For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. ³ And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. ⁴ Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip. ⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.



EPIPHANY

EPISTLE READING – Ephesians 3:1-12 (NIV) For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- ² Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³ that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. ⁴ In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵ which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. ⁶ This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus. ⁷ I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. ¹⁰ His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, ¹¹ according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹² In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.