

# 4th & Stewart church of Christ

"...upon this rock I will build my church;  
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."  
~ Matthew 16:18



August 19, 2018

## Contact Us:

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## Meeting Times:

### Sunday:

Bible Study .....9:45 AM  
Worship .....10:40 AM  
Care, Inc. Service .... 2:30 PM  
Worship ..... 6:00 PM

### Wednesday:

Bible Study ..... 7:00 PM

## Elders:

Gene Bannister..... Billy Chism

## Deacons:

Mike Bannister..... Don Smith

James Thomas

## Evangelist:

Johnny McCaghren

## Works We Support:

Cherokee Home for Children  
Gospel Broadcast Network  
Heart of Texas Bible Camp (Bangs)  
House to House, Heart to Heart  
Mission Printing  
Rohan Jones, Africa  
The Truth in Love  
World Bible School

## Worship in Spirit and Truth

What general components are involved in worship? Of course, there must be an object of devotion or worship, and there must be an attitude and state of mind from the supplicant to the object of worship. Many objects of worship have been honored through the centuries. Surely this is because people have always been able to look about them and observe that the universe must have a creator. People have worshipped the sun, moon, stars, seasons, trees, animals, and so many elements of nature. In this process they have neglected the true Creator, but they see the evidence that someone greater has crafted all that is; the psalmist mentions this evidence in Psalm 19:1-6.

Different religions demand different activities by the supplicants. Prayer is often involved, some giving, maybe singing or observance of special times. Some are required to make pilgrimages, while others are expected to offer sacrifices. In the past, human sacrifices were offered. Monks have engaged in self-flagellation or lived in very austere conditions because they thought it would bring them nearer to their gods. But contemplating what others have done in the name of religion reminds us that we want to worship the right God, have the right attitude and state of mind, and worship in the right activities.

The term "worship" is translated from a term literally meaning "to kiss towards." Worship carries with it the idea of reverence or a feeling of unworthiness expressed to someone or something judged or esteemed worthy. The term itself is derived from "worthship," pointing to the worth attached to the object of our worship.

As children of the Most High, we worship the Creator of the universe, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. If we take ancient Israel as an example, and this is a good start, we can see that they had very elaborate forms of worship. They had a special place, special days, special activities, special clothing, etc. Of utmost importance is the fact that God determined these specifics. So we step into the Christian era. Does God give any specifics about how He is to be worshiped in this age? Given His previous desires we might expect "yes," and that would be exactly correct. Some might wonder if there are special places to worship. When Jesus spoke with the Samaritan woman in John 4, she noted that the Jews and Samaritans both had particular locations associated with their worship. But the Messiah pointed to a future age, the Christian age, where there would be no specifically assigned location.

Jesus also pointed to two elements so crucial to our approaching God to worship: attitude/spirit and truth (John 4:24). What we do in our devotion to God and the attitude with which we act matter to the Almighty.

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Let us know if you want to study  
the Bible to know more about  
Christ and His Church.



For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;  
**Colossians 1:9-10**

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One of the great things about the New Testament is that it not only gives us direct instruction, but it also preserves “snapshots” of the early church that reveal the church in action in light of its instruction by God. We see the early church gathering on the first day of the week to worship (Acts 20:7; Rev. 1:10). Are there specific activities in which the church engaged? Yes. We are shown images of the early church engaged in a number of worship activities.

- Giving (1 Cor. 16:1,2; Phil. 4:18)
- Preaching and teaching (Acts 20:7ff)
- Singing (Heb. 13:13; 2:12).
- Praying (Acts 12:12).
- Communion (Acts 20:7; 2:42).

What is important to note is that each of these activities in which the early church engaged were directed and regulated by God. Just as in the old system, the Creator has indicated how He should be worshiped by the creation. Our willingness to accept His direction allows us to embrace His truth coupled with our submissive, loving spirit. It is possible for some to go off in another direction. Jesus identifies that it is possible to engage in activities called “worship” that God does not respect (Matt. 15:9). Paul mentions that some are determined to have their own desires reflected in their worship practices. This is called “will worship” (Col. 2:23). This is “worship one devises and prescribes for self-contrary to the faith.” (Thayer, s.v.). Our aim instead is to practice what the Lord directs, knowing our highest aim is to please Him with all we do and say. What is at the heart of this discussion is how we, a part of God’s creation, can come before Him appropriately, exalting Him in ways that are meaningful to Him. Because of our respect for Him, and knowing our standing in His sight, it is right for us to seek His counsel, to approach Him in a manner He has deemed acceptable, and to do so in loving humility. Involved in our worship are the attitude and content found at the heart of our expression of devotion and praise (John 4:24).

Rick Brumback (Christian Worker, July 2018, 1,7)

# Approaching the Throne of Grace

Prayer is one of the avenues God has prescribed for our worship. As we pray unto Him, we give praise and adoration to Him, we express thanksgiving, we confess our shortcomings and sins, we beg His tender mercies, we present out our requests, and we seek His providential protection. In a psalm that is ascribed to Solomon, the attentive nature of our Father, when we come to Him, is vividly described, “For he delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper” (Ps. 72:12). Charles Spurgeon, in The Treasury of David, makes this helpful comment: “A child’s cry touches a father’s heart, and our King is the Father of his people. If we can do no more than cry it will bring omnipotence to our aid.”

In helping us to realize in a greater way the privilege of prayer, the following exhortation should thrill us, “Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need” (Heb. 4:16).

Our prayers should never be characterized by timidity. We are invited to come before our Father with “confidence.” We do not have to wonder if God desires our coming to Him. We are given the exalted privilege of being a royal priesthood (1 Pet. 2:5). One application of this blessing is that we can “draw near to the throne of grace.”

I believe one gauge of a congregation’s devotion to spiritual worship is in the emphasis given to prayer. As the congregation is assembled for worship, the time devoted to prayer should never be seen as rote, routine, or ritualistic. As the assigned brother leads the assembly in prayer, you and I are to involve ourselves by fervent concentration. Each of us has the responsibility of being spiritually and mentally involved in the prayer being lead.

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## Television

The Truth In Love (Robert Dodson)

Sunday @ 7:00am on KTAB

In Search of the Lord’s Way (Phil Sanders)

Sunday @ 7:30am on KTAB

Life In The Light (Chris McCurley)

Sunday @ 10:00am on KTAB

## Radio

Preaching the Word (Michael Light)

Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3

## Internet

TheGospelRadioNetwork.org

Gospel Broadcasting Network (Gbnv.org)

## God’s Plan for Redeeming Man

**Hear** Learn the saving message of Christ’s sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).

**Believe** Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)

**Confess** Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)

**Repent** of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)

Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being **baptized** for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)

**Live faithfully** (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)

## Bible Reading Schedule

Aug. 19 **Isaiah 50—54**

Aug. 20 **Isaiah 55:1—60:9**

Aug. 21 **Isaiah 60:10—66:24**

Aug. 22 **Jeremiah 1:1—2:25 (video)**

Aug. 23 **Jeremiah 2:26—5:19**

Aug. 24 **Jeremiah 5:20—8:22**

Aug. 25 **Jeremiah 9—12**

Aug. 26 **Jeremiah 13:1—16:9**

*“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”*

(2 Timothy 2:15)



### Visitation Meeting

- ◆ Each Sunday night immediately before the evening worship. Last week **43 contacts** were made.

### Announcements

- ◆ Johnny and Cindy are in Tennessee this week, attending Polishing the Pulpit. We are honored to have with us **Dr. Charles Hall**. He will be teaching the adult Bible class, and presenting both the morning and evening sermons.
- ◆ Thank you to everyone for making our SYS a great success. We had just shy of 150 in attendance. All left well fed both spiritually and physically.
- ◆ Keep our returning students, new college students, and teachers in your prayers.
- ◆ Ladies—if you plan to attend TLC retreat, you need to get registered ASAP.

### Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ October 14-17—Fall Gospel Meeting with Jacob Rutledge. *“The Church Shaped by Scripture”*
- ◆ November 3—Ladies’ Day w/ Evelyn Bonner

### Other Upcoming Opportunities to Learn and Grow

- ◆ Aug. 17-23—Polishing the Pulpit (Sevierville, TN)
- ◆ Oct. 4-6—Texas Ladies in Christ Retreat (Brady)

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Imagine you were in a small group of people who had an audience with a high governmental official. How attentive would you be to what was taking place and being said in this meeting? Most certainly, you would not be thinking about something that needed to be done later in the day or week. The reason you would be giving your greatest possible concentration would be due to the respect of the office of the governmental official. But I am afraid that sometimes when we come together for worship our great God in the assembly, we may find it easy to let our minds wander as we are being lead in prayer.

The following are some suggestions that I hope will help us as we come together and collectively pray in the assembly:

1. **We must prepare ourselves.** When we turn on a light switch instantly the light is shining. But you and I do not have a worship “switch” that we can turn on, and instantly we are worshipping. Worship without preparation will result in worship that is mundane and heartless. One helpful exercise is to meditate on the holiness of God. One passage that aids us in directing our thoughts is Psalm 33:20-21, *“Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.”*
2. **Anticipate the privilege and joy of worship.** The enthusiastic attitude of David toward worship is seen in his exclamation, *“I was glad when they said to me, ‘Let us go to the house of the Lord!’”* (Ps. 122:1). When we pillow our head on Saturday night, the last thought we have before we drift off to sleep should be on the privilege that awaits us the next morning. Then when we awake in the morning, our anticipation should be even greater!
3. **Enter the worship service with a deep sense of reverence and awe.** Psalm 96:4 reminds us, *“For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.”* In one of his books on worship, Tom Holland recounts the thoughts of one brother regarding how we should approach worship. The following is a paraphrase of his comments: We should imagine God is seated on a throne at the front of the auditorium, receiving our praise and adoration.

Bruce Ligon (Christian Worker, July 2013, 3,4)

## Celebrate

*“Rejoice with those who rejoice...” (Romans 12:15)*

**August Birthdays:** Joe Dennis (9), Rafe Smith (11), Jessica Dennis (13), Brandi Kite (14), Don Smith (14), Royce Ford (16), **Ryan Rudloff (20)**, Roy Dodson (29), Coyce Reed (30).

**August Anniversaries:** Matthew & Kaci Churchwell (15), Don & Darlene Smith (29).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



## Records

	Aug. 5, 2018	Aug. 12, 2018
Bible Class	49	49
AM Worship	62	65
PM Worship	43	43
Wednesday PM	46	43
Contribution	\$2,112	\$1,690

	This Week: 8/19/18	Next Week: 8/26/18		
<b>Sunday AM:</b>	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<p><b>August 2018</b>  <b>Make Announcements:</b>                      Gene Bannister  <b>Prepare Communion:</b>                      Randy &amp; Laura Huckaby  <b>Clean Building:</b>                      Dennis Family</p> <p><b>September 2018</b>  <b>Make Announcements:</b>                      John Barnum  <b>Prepare Communion:</b>                      Tom &amp; Carol Wilcox  <b>Clean Building:</b>                      Fuller / Stultz</p>	
<b>Greeters</b>	Mileen & Ashley Kahlich	John Barnum Family		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Gene Bannister	James Fuller		
<b>Communion</b>	John Barnum*, Hank Wheeler Ryan Settles, Rafe Smith	Joe Dennis*, Caleb Dennis Ken Maninger, Chase Churchwell		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Ken Maninger	Ryan Rudloff		
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Jaceten Evetts	Aaron Smith		
<b>Sunday PM:</b>	Song Leader: Joe Dennis	Song Leader: James Fuller		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Don Smith	Allen Griffith		
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	James Thomas	Tom Wilcox		
<b>Communion</b>	John Barnum	Joe Dennis		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Allen Griffith	Gene Bannister		
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	August 22 5 <sup>th</sup> (4 <sup>th</sup> ) Wed. Video	August 29 Don Smith	September 5 Prayer Night	September 12 Joe Dennis

## Search the Scriptures

*Be like the Bereans who "received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." (Acts 17:11)*

### Studies for the week of August 19, 2018

Sunday Class ..... Charles Hall  
 Wed. Class ..... TBA

## "I Will Sing the Wondrous Story"

People love an enthusiastic, joyful song service. There are congregations of twenty that will sound like hundreds because everyone is singing out, and there are congregations of hundreds that will sound like twenty because no one is singing out! Singing is something God commanded to be a part of His worship (John. 4:24; Col. 3:16). It is in part, a demonstration of the unity of believers, Jews, Gentiles, males, females, bond, free – all being one in Christ (cf. Rom. 15:8-13; Gal. 3:27-29). Though we may speculate why exactly God wants singing in His worship, the truth is, it is something He desires. With that in mind, do we think about the way we sing in worship being something that communicates the way we feel about Him and fellow Christians? Said another way, "Can others tell from the way I sing in worship that I am a person who is passionate about that wondrous story of the Christ?"

It ought to be that the Lord knows how I feel about Him by the song service. When the "sacrifice of praise" is offered, we do want that sacrifice to be something with which God is pleased (cf. Jer. 33:11; Mal. 1:13; Heb. 13:15). When we offer our worship, God hears the melody of our hearts and the sound from our lips and He knows how much He means to us (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; Jas. 5:13). As singers of the wondrous story, we want to passionately declare and sing of, and to our Redeemer. We want to fervently declare, "My Jesus I love Thee, I know Thou art mine. For Thee all the follies of sin I resign" with Him listening and knowing it is the truth.

It ought to be that the church knows how I feel about His church by the song service. Singing praises is vertical first and

foremost. That is, it is to God (Rom. 15:10-11). However, horizontally, there are also songs of instruction and songs of admonishment that we sing to His glory and to each other for their benefit (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16). Have you ever looked down the pew and sang to your neighbor, "have thine affections been nailed to the cross, is thy heart right with God?" Have you ever had your neighbor sing to you, "blest be the tie that binds, our hearts in Christian love?" There is a personal nature to our songs, and God forbid that we should divorce our affections for each other from the message of the song (cf. Ps. 133:1-3). As singers of the wondrous story, our neighbors ought to know that we love the Lord and each other far more than anything else (Matt. 22:36-39).

It ought to be that I know how the church feels about the Lord by the song service. Would we be tolerant if our own preacher was willfully absent from the assembly because he didn't feel like going? Would we understand if our preacher just opened the Bible and read mindlessly because he hadn't prepared himself for teaching? We wouldn't tolerate that very long. The truth is that Christians have responsibilities on the Lord's Day just as the preacher (cf. Heb. 10:24-25). Can a Christian be "teaching and admonishing" another the way they ought to be if they are absent (mentally, physically, or emotionally) from the assembly? The song service suffers when Christians are not present to sing! As singers of the wondrous story, we are to be present, ready to let the Lord know, to let the church know, and to let our visitors know that "He's my glorious King, and oh I dearly love Him." Can we hear it and know it's the truth? Can He hear it and know it's the truth?