

Time and time again, Jesus speaks of reversals. His invitation here is not to be in a power spot to look down, but to be the shoulders that others stand on, the outstretched arm that helps make space for someone on the fringes to enter the center, the person who is happy to be a little smaller so that others can join in. We can do these sorts of things when we know our lives are like the iceberg.. We might take up just a little space above the water and not demand much from others, but within us and underneath the surface, each of us has (the potential for) a vast and rich life with God.

Chelsea Harmon



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Proclaiming Sharing Caring Growing

The Worship of God
August 27, 2023
13th Sunday after Pentecost

God's People Gather

The Chimes

The chimes are sounded, awakening us to the presence of God, who calls us together, has come among us in Christ Jesus our Lord and has given us the Holy Spirit.

The Gathering

Susan Meadors

Monthly Memory Verse: but Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." Matthew 19:14

The Prelude

All Creatures of our God and King

arr. Mark Hayes

The Summons

Toney Keeler

The Leader: Those who follow Jesus are invited to take up a cross and follow.

People: But if we do, we'll get the reward, right? We will be noticed and applauded. Held up for all to see?

The Leader: The first will be last and the last will be first.

People: Right! So, we'll be sure to be seen taking up the end of the line. Please, go ahead. That will show how pious we are!

The Leader: Whoever will be great must be a servant of all.

People: That's the key, then? OK, to serve equals greatness, and we want to be great Christians.

The Leader: But do we want to be good Christians? "The Son of man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Come and see.

To Praise the Living God

*The Processional Hymn 407 My Faith Looks Up to Thee

OLIVET

My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine! Now hear me while I pray,
Take all my guilt away, O let me from this day be wholly Thine!

May Thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart,
My zeal inspire; as Thou hast died for me,
O may my love to Thee pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire!

While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs around me spread,
Be Thou my guide; bid darkness turn to day,
Wipe sorrow's tears away, nor let me ever stray from Thee aside.

When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold, sullen stream
Shall o'er me roll, blest Savior, then, in love,
Fear and distrust remove; O bear me safe above, a ransomed soul!

*The Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Melvin Whitfield

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. Amen.

To Listen for God's Word

*The Witness of the Scripture: Psalm 119:105-112

Melvin Whitfield

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*The Hymn 392

Open Our Eyes

OPEN OUR EYES

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,
to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

The Confession of Sin

Toney Keeler

Leader: The weekly practice of corporate confession reinforces our community by reminding us that we stand together in need of prayer and that we are not alone in our weaknesses and wrong doings. We confess together because we live out the life of Christ together, practicing our faith with the promise of forgiveness. Knowing this, let us confess our sins together:

All: We confess that we are quick to want place and power and position. We want to be noticed naturally when we have done good. If we were in charge, the economy of salvation would be clear: those who most deserved it would be the ones to get it. We know how to keep the balance sheets between right and wrong. We know who should be first in line, and who should be last. We are quick to judge, and we are convinced that if we ran this salvation show, we would quickly bring people into line. Our way is clearly the high way. We sort out sinners from saints with solid assurance.

Leader: "The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many."

All: Have mercy on us, Lord, and let our eyes be opened. Help us to take a hard look at ourselves, our motives, our actions, our hearts. In seeing the truth, help us, then, to realize your amazing mercy and grace that has healed us. We are the ones, Lord, standing in need of your touch. Open our eyes, Lord, and let us see you—even as you have seen who we truly are. Once we have seen and been seen by you, allow us to follow you, to do what you have done. Helps us, like

you, to extend circles of mercy and grace. We would serve you and your kingdom by serving those who need the miracles the most. Your life-giving, resurrecting grace is abundant and free—not just to us but to the whole world. We want to be less worried about greatness and freer with grace. We want to be less concerned about reward and hungrier for righteousness. Right now, we want your kingdom to come into this place. Help us. Help us, O God. Amen.

The Assurance of Pardon

My brothers and sisters, God hears and God helps. In Christ our sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen!

The Children's Time

Sam Lovorn

*Children under five are invited to go to Extended Session following children's time.
An adult will meet them on the east side of the sanctuary and walk them to the Children's Building.*

*The Witness of the Gospels: Matthew 20:17-34

Melvin Whitfield

This is the Gospel of our Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*The Gloria Patri

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, Amen.

The Anthem

How Very Good and Pleasant

arr. Arlen Clake

The Sermon

Not So Among You

Susan Meadors

The Pastoral Prayer

And to Respond in Faith

Susan Meadors

*The Hymn of Response 275

Who Is My Mother, Who is My Brother

KINDRED

Who is my mother, who is my brother? All those who gather round Jesus Christ:
Spirit-blown people, born from the Gospel sit at the table, round Jesus Christ.

Differently abled, differently labeled widen the circle round Jesus Christ:
crutches and stigmas, cultures' enigmas all come together round Jesus Christ.

Love will relate us--color or status can't segregate us, round Jesus Christ:
family failings, human derailings-- all are accepted, round Jesus Christ.

Bound by one vision, met for one mission we claim each other, round Jesus Christ:
here is my mother, here is my brother, kindred in Spirit, through Jesus Christ.

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The Affirmation of Christian Decision

We affirm you in your Christian decision and celebrate your place in the family of God. We accept our responsibility to help you grow into the fullness of Christ. We offer ourselves to be your family, to surround you with God's kind of love. Amen

The Offertory This is My Father's World (with What a Wonderful World)

*If you have a financial offering, please put it in the offering plate
or scan the QR code on the announcement sheet.*

*The Offering Prayer

Toney Keeler

God, we give you this offering and pray that you would use it to provide for the poor, to comfort the mourners, to minister to the meek, to feed the hungry, and to provide mercy and peace for those who are persecuted. Help us to serve these whom you have blessed for you have loved us, and in your grace, have given us more than we need. Amen.

*The Doxology

TALLIS' CANON

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*The Benediction

Susan Meadors

August 27, 2023
13th Sunday after Pentecost

Aug 27	9:30 10:30 5:30pm-7:30pm	Sunday School Worship Back to School Pool Party at YMCA
Sept 3	6pm- 8pm	College Trivia Night
Sept 5		Courtney Back from Sabbatical
Sept 6	6pm	Northside Talent Show
Sept 10	9:15 am	Courtney's Welcome Breakfast

Extended Session

See the chart below for Extended Session volunteers for today and the following weeks. The Children's Committee member in charge for the month of August is **Graham Carner** and the member in charge for September is **Martha Stringer**.

Aug 27	Infants	Tequila Johnson Heather Ivery
	Toddlers	M.D. Whitfield Bart Mayfield
Sept 3	Infants	Tequila Johnson Mary Lea Nations
	Toddlers	Marijane Whitfield James Stringer
Sept 10	Infants	Tequila Johnson Audrey Harrison
	Toddlers	John Meadors Don Nyberg
Sept 17	Infants	Tequila Johnson Deborah Fry
	Toddlers	Buddy Wagner Sarah Denley Herrington

Financial Update

Month	Gen. Fund Receipts	Gen. Fund Budget	Over/Under
*April	\$42,256	\$38,202	+4,054
*May	\$40,069	\$38,202	+1,867
*June	\$32,849	\$38,202	-5,353
*July	\$35,019	\$38,202	-3,183

* Adjusted for large one- time gifts

Want to Give Digitally?

Scan the QR Code in the Photo App on your phone



Northside Talent Show

The Northside Talent Show will be held on September 6th @ 6pm. It is open to all ages. If you would like to show off your talent or skill, please sign up in the narthex or in the church office. For questions, please contact Tanya Mayfield @ 601-946-3677.

Football Ministry

August 29th, we start our 12th year of the Football Ministry. We welcome any financial contributions to help with food costs. Just note on your check or online gift that it is for the Football Ministry. Thanks for your support, and feel free to call Ricky Nations (601-750-3052) or James Stringer (601-259-6284) with any questions.

RECENT PRAYER REQUESTS

Please contact the office if you have an update.

Blake Callender, son-in-law of Kitty Brogan, hospice
Elizabeth Coleman, grandmother of Audrey Harrison, broken hip

Rebecca Crouch, friend of Audrey Harrison, MD
Anderson, experimental treatments for lung cancer

Eli Davidson, friend of Jimmie Street's grandson, leukemia

Mary Davis, friend of Susan Meadors in Texas, cancer

Joanne Duff, inoperable pancreatic cancer

Donna Foster, friend of Nina Compton, recovering from surgery

Nancy Hancock, recovering at sister's in Byram, has serious wound/infection in foot, fell Thursday

Susan Harkins, daughter of Freddie Key, testing for serious illness

Dewitt Harrison, father of Audrey Harrison, home recovering from heart surgery

Tommy Hudson, ICU for infection, River Oaks

Teri Kerner, friend of Ben Randman, health concerns

Alex Long, Army National Guard bootcamp

Evan Martin, son-in law of Bradley and Audrey, US

Army deployment in Middle East since 5/21

Linda McComb, chemotherapy for colon cancer

Mallory McCoy, friend of Audrey Harrison, undergoing cancer therapy, but several clear PET scans
Justin Morrow, grand-son-in-law of Jimmie Street, TIA's/mini stroke
Janie Payne, cousin of Lida Stark, breast cancer
Amy Payton, sister of Michael Williamson, AFib
Linda Perkins, niece of Joe Cooper, cancer has metastasized to bones.
Jerry Ray, friend of Linda Powell, recovering from severe heart issues and defibrillator placement
Ryan Rogers, friend of MS Chorus members, surgery for benign kidney tumor
Beth Ronie, daughter of Marilyn Hetrick, cancer
Janet Taylor, our organist, rehab for knee replacement
Angel Sanchez, cancer; mother Nicola, sisters Hillary and Love
Wolf Schmidt, online worshipper, cancer
Lola Shields, sister of Susan Meadors, recovering from neck surgery
Carol St. Amant, friend of Thelma Basley, hospitalized with suspected heart issues, testing continues
Mike Stamey, father of Michael Stamey, continued cancer treatment
John Stanley, former pastor, in rehab as he recovers from multiple strokes
Katelin Worthington, friend of Audrey Harrison, serious long-term problem with blood vessels

ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayers for the victims of the tornados in North Mississippi and Clinton
Peace in Ukraine
Oleksandr and Marianna, Ukrainian friends of Pam Sullivan (former member) in Kyiv
Marina and Vitoria, Ukrainian Ole Miss students
Debbie Bradford, aunt of Courtney Stamey, cancer
Amy Bullens, niece of Nina Compton, seizures
Hale Byrd, friend of Jimmy Sclater, prostate cancer
Caby Byrne, blindness
Beverly Cavin, Boones' cousin, brain cancer
Cassidy Clevenger, granddaughter of Sheila Wagner
Eldredge Coleman, grandfather of Audrey Harrison, in-home hospice care
Donna Corbett, mother of Kim Corbett, cancer
Jim Corbett, father of Kim Corbett, Parkinson's
Rhea Estes, friend of Nancy and Ken Anderson, cancer
Eddie Foster, friend of Ben Randman, recovery from brain tumor surgery
Jennifer Garriga, niece of Jerrell Hutson
Teresa Howard, niece of Nancy Hancock
Curtis Jackson, father of Tequila Johnson, multiple health issues; prayers for Tequila and family

Ali Jenkins, cancer in spine
Jeannie Lane, friend of David Miller, stroke and high blood sugar
Francis Davis Mann, sister-in-law of Jim Sclater, stroke
Ann Marquez, low hemoglobin levels
John Marquez, former member, blood cancer
Jerry May, brother of Cynthia Tucker
Megan Clara Nichols, child, brittle bone disease
Blake Parham, brother of Jason Parham, continuing chemo for metastatic cancer
Carolyn Parham, mother of Jason Parham, chemo for metastatic cancer
Tom Persons, brother of Annie Bess Saul, knee replacement surgery recovery
Paul Robertson, friend of the Hutsons, lymphoma
Lewis Seller, Mary Coker's brother, kidney dialysis
Ms. Brook Stogner, friend of Kim Corbett, lifelong chronic health issues with tumors
Meredith Thomason, recovering from Guillain Barre syndrome
Fran Windler, friend of Jimmy Sclater
Sherri Wheat, neighbor of Stringers
Gene White, friend of Ron Smith
Laura Uecker, friend of Amy Williamson, leukemia
Roger Ziegler, upcoming surgery

MISSIONARIES/MINISTRIES

Delta Hands for Hope | El Pueblo
Lynn and Michael Hutchinson, Togo
Porta House ministry to Albanians in Athens, Greece
Primeira Igreja Batista em Bultrins | Promotoras
The Good Samaritan Center | Together for Hope
Delta Hands for Hope

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

We extend our loving sympathy to the friends and family of church member **Scott King**, who passed away early Sunday morning, August 13. His funeral was Saturday, August 26, 2023

MEMBERS AT HOME

Thelma Basley – 650A Highland Colony Pkwy, Apt 302
 Ridgeland, MS 39157
 Wilma Hemphill - *Highland Home*, Room 503,
 638 Highland Colony Pkwy,
 Ridgeland, MS 39157
 Merle Thomas – 100 Parker Drive #2B, 39056
 LaDeane Moore – Clinton Healthcare, Rm. 205
 1251 Pinehaven Road, Clinton
 Deborah Skelton – Lakeland Nursing and Rehabilitation
 Center, 3680 Lakeland Ln, Jackson MS 39216