



TRUE LIGHT

Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. ~ Psalm 119:105

May 24, 2020

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Bible Study..... n/a
Worship.....10:15AM
Worship..... n/a

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study.....7:00PM

MINISTER

Stan Dauck
573-293-5620

ELDERS

David Burleson
573-820-0329
David Carson
573-276-5567
Stan Dauck
573-293-5594

DEACONS

Wayne Reams
Joe Watson
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"This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Psalms 118:24

We Welcome You To All Of Our Services

MEMORY AND MORE

The Centurion stood sheepishly before the governor, Pontius Pilate. He had not asked for this duty. His century of men were elite troops of Rome stationed in Caesarea. Caesarea was near the coast, beautiful, felt more like home, and was far away from this dangerous and harsh place called Jerusalem.

With rumors about the Nazarene named Jesus floating in the air, King Herod had asked for a stronger Roman military presence during the Passover feast. When the Jewish Ruling Council had sent Jesus to Pilate and screamed for his execution, Pilate had sent the Centurion along with his men to keep the peace and oversee the execution. His job was to keep the peace and confirm to Pilate that the Nazarene was dead.

Watching over the death detail was beneath his station. The Centurion was a professional soldier, not an executioner and prison house lackey. When ordered to carry out Pilate's sentence on the Nazarene, he had expected the worst. Reality proved him right.

Ranting and raving, insults and cruel jokes, with three men dying the slow death of crucifixion were expected. Earthquakes, darkness at midday, and the eerie sense of something much bigger happening had set the Centurion on edge. The look in the Nazarene's eye, however, was what tugged at his heart. Jesus had said, "Father forgive them, they don't know what they are doing." Then the Nazarene had looked right at him.

As the death detail cast lots for his clothes, as the religious powerbrokers hurled their insults, as the other two criminals cursed and screamed at the crowd, the Nazarene had prayed for their forgiveness - his forgiveness! Then this dying Jesus had looked at one of his friends and told him to take care of his mother. He then looked to the heavens, and seemed to give his spirit up to some unseen deity - this God whom he called Father. In that moment, this battle-hardened, best of Rome's fighting machine heroes, surprised himself. "Surely this was the Son of God," he heard himself say.

Now that Jesus' death was confirmed, Pilate was sending him back to Golgotha. He in his silver burnished armor, a rich man named Joseph in his fancy clothes, along with a man in all of the religious garb he had seen earlier. Only these two men were allowed to take down the body of the Nazarene from the cross and bury it. The Centurion and his men were to accompany them. This was "to ensure that nothing happened with the body," Pilate and the High Priest emphasized.

So here he was again, the Centurion at the foot of a foul smelling, blood-stained, instrument of torture to take down a mutilated body. Somehow, he still felt drawn to this Nazarene. In a weird way, he even felt connected to the rich guy and the religious man even though their lives were worlds apart.

Could it get any stranger - this death detail that must now oversee the burial of an executed Nazarene to be placed in a borrowed tomb? Somehow, the Centurion knew this story wasn't over. Even when his men rolled the stone across the door to the tomb and sealed it shut, he knew he hadn't heard the end of the Nazarene.

Little did the Centurion know that the strange pull of faith on his heart would be challenged and enlivened with what was about to happen over the next few days. "Surely this Jesus is the Son of God," he heard his heart say again. In the coming weeks, many would come to agree with him.

Is that exactly how the story happened? I'm not sure. That's how I put it together in my imagination after looking at the different accounts of Jesus' crucifixion focusing on the role of the Roman Centurion. But for me, there is a bigger issue for you and me.

On this Memorial Day weekend, let's remember that soldiers in
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With Honor & Gratitude
We Remember

CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

BIRTHDAYS

May 25 - Logan Northern
Mary Burke
May 29 - Kayli Lawrence
May 30 - Emily Beard
Elwood Rush

ANNIVERSARIES

May 26 - David & LaRhonda Billingsley

CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Cold Cereal * Rubber Gloves * All
Fabric Bleach * Aluminum Foil *
Non-aerosol Bathroom Cleaner *
Bottled Apple Juice

PICK UP DATE JUNE 8

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Cereal * canned spaghetti sauce *
crackers * canned vegetables
Monetary donations are appreciated.

Attendance for May 17: 112
Contribution for May 17: \$6457

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

"...I was sick and you visited me..." Matthew 25:36

Remember: **Sonja Mays** fell Wednesday and broke her hip. It was thought she would have surgery Thursday * **Kathy Caudle** has had considerable hip pain for the past six weeks and had a doctor's appointment Friday * **Helen McGowan** was scheduled to have a port placed in her arm Thursday for dialysis * **Janet Wood** will be having knee replacement surgery in the near future * **Woody Wood** will be having gallbladder surgery in the near future * Cathy Provance's dad, **Tom Provance**, is having some issues * **Roxanne Carson** got good results from her scan, but will still need a gamma knife treatment * **Rita Burch** is having some health issues * **Johnny Dauck**, Stan's brother, has been readmitted to the hospital and is still testing positive for COVID 19 * **Sharlette Watson** * **Helen McGowan** as she continues with dialysis treatment

Continue praying for these members of our church family: Louella Akers * John David Barnett * David Burselson * Pam Claeys * Billie Cooper * Scott and Judy Flannery * Sue Flowers * Grant Howard * Morris Karnes * Darlene McGowan * Helen McGowan * Jeff McGowan * Kevin Mickey * Reba Owens * Ida Roberts * Gayle Rodgers * Waynetta Rodgers * Elwood Rush * Jane Smith * David Terrill * Bettie Thurston * Joy Watson * Marty Watson *

Those dealing with cancer (non congregational) :

Kristi Altman * Roxanne Carson * Sherry Chambers * Bill Fitzpatrick * Kim Goins * LeAnn Jacques * Tommy Jacques * Pam Jeralds * Andy Kelley * Connie Lemmons * Annette Lumsden * Phil McKuin * Ponna Mahan * Paula Mason * Betty Nicholson * Donnie Rawlings * Gerald Robertson * Deanna Rogers * Tammy Telker * Bobby Thornton

Other health issues (non-congregational):

Megan Brenna * DeeDee Burch * Mary Burke * Renee Goodman * Clyde Jacques * Lola Johnson * Beckie King * Nikki Lawrence * Sonja Mays * Alvin Miller * Tom Provance * Gene Rowland * Traci Suiter * Paige Tanner * Rex Earnhart * Guy Gibson

Our Shut Ins

Lois McKuin * Marty Watson * Joy Watson * Elwood Rush * Sue Flowers * Travis Cooper * Shirley Johnson * Fern Botsch

For the time being, Amy will be in the office on Fridays from about 8:30 to 1 or 1:30 and will be available to assist you with getting communion supplies or dropping off your contribution. She will come to your vehicle if you would prefer not to leave it.

A reminder that for the time being, activities outside of our worship will not be permitted in the building. This includes meetings, parties and meals. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Continued from front:

Jesus' day recognized something powerful and commanding about Him - like the Roman Centurion who confesses Jesus as the Son of God. In fact, in the early years of the Jesus movement, we meet three Centurions who all demonstrate some level of faith in Jesus:

- The Centurion with the sick servant who recognizes Jesus' authority (Luke 7: 1-10).
- The Centurion at the Cross who confesses Jesus as the Son of God (Mark 15:37-47).
- The Centurion named Cornelius who becomes the first Gentile disciple recognized by the church leaders in Jerusalem (Acts 10: 1-48; Acts 11: 1-18).

On this Memorial Day Weekend as folks remember the sacrifices of those who paid the ultimate price for their loyalty to USA and its ideals, let's remember Jesus. Let's recognize what those Centurions saw in their day:

- That we can receive the Lord's help with appreciation and confidence knowing He has the ultimate authority to bless our lives (Luke 7: 5-10).
- That we can trust that Jesus is the Son of God who has died on the cross to share God's life with us (Mark 15: 37-39).
- That no matter how good our life may appear (Acts 10: 22-23), Jesus calls each of us to receive the Holy Spirit and be baptized (Acts 10:34-48); Acts 11: 15-18).

Phil Ware, www.heartlight.com

In Sympathy:

Sympathy is extended to the family of Vicki Peters, who passed away May 16. Vicki's funeral was Thursday in Dexter.

Our sympathy also to the family of our sister Pansy Zimmerman, who passed away Tuesday, May 20. Pansy's funeral was Friday in Bernie.

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.
(Psalm 116:15)

