



TRUE LIGHT

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

April 4, 2021

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Worship:

8:45 a.m. (masked)

Sunday School 9:50 a.m.

10:30 a.m. (masks optional)

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study.....7:00PM

MINISTER

Stan Dauck

573-293-5620

ELDERS

David Burleson

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David Carson

573-276-5567

Stan Dauck

573-293-5594

DEACONS

Wayne Reams

Joe Watson

Rodney Williams

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Bernie church of Christ

"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**

BURIED

In Mark 10:46-52, we meet a man named Bartimaeus who was blind. When he heard Jesus drawing near, he shouted for the Son of David to heal him. Despite interference from Jesus' disciples, the man kept shouting to the Lord until Jesus healed him. Then, Bartimaeus *followed Jesus along the road* (Mark 10:52), or more literally, he "followed Jesus on the way" to Jerusalem, the cross, and the resurrection (Mark 10:52 NLT).

Not surprisingly, Jesus' early disciples identified themselves as *followers of the way* (Acts 9:2, 22:4-5, 24:14). They had chosen to follow Jesus in the way of the cross (Luke 9:23-27). During this special week, let's join those early disciples and choose to be followers of Jesus in the way of the cross!

Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures (1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

Paul told the Corinthian Christians that the gospel rests on three key realities:

- 1. Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures**
- 2. He was buried**
- 3. He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures**

Most of us understand the essentiality of believing that Jesus died for our sins. Most of us recognize that not much else about our faith in Jesus would matter without his resurrection. But what's the big deal about Jesus being buried? When people die, they are buried. That's part of dying. So, why is the reality of Jesus' burial so essential for us to believe and remember?

The first time I really thought about the importance of Jesus' burial was when I heard Andy Stanley talk about "Nic and Joe Save Easter." He emphasized how important it was that Joseph of Arimathea, with the help of Nicodemus, lovingly buried Jesus (John 19:38-42).

Those two important men - one rich and the other respected as a member of the Jewish ruling council and the well-respected teacher - made themselves unclean and unable to participate in Passover because they took care of the dead body of Jesus. They fulfilled prophecy by burying Jesus in the tomb of a rich man (Isaiah 53:9).

As two unassailable witnesses (Deuteronomy 19:15), Joseph and Nicodemus could confirm that Jesus was genuinely dead and securely buried (Matthew 27:57-61). They risked their reputations, their standing within the ruling society, and even their lives by coming out of the shadows and identifying with Jesus. Why? For Jesus to be the risen Messiah and Son of God, he also had to be the dead and buried Jesus of Nazareth. Nicodemus and Joseph ensured that Jesus' death and burial were historically certain.

However, there are other emotionally significant reasons for us to know that Jesus was buried. For Jesus to face everything that we as mortals face and for him to stand ready to help us, he had to face the reality of death and the world of the dead (Hebrews 2:14-15).

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CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

BIRTHDAYS

April 11 - Levi Thompson
 April 12 - Maura Thomason
 April 13 - Casey Karnes
 April 15 - Traci McQuin
 April 17 - Bailey Mays
 Jon Neely



CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Cleaning Supplies (non-aerosol) * Furniture Polish * Grape Juice (bottled) * Small Freezer Bags * Spaghetti Sauce * Taco/Burrito Mixes

PICK-UP DATE APRIL 26

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Currently operating on an individual basis. Funds to help support this program are always needed and appreciated

Attendance for March 28: 114

Contribution for March 28: \$3448

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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

Remember: Kristi Altman had a change in chemo and is not doing well * Don Jackson has been moved to Cypress Point for rehab following knee cap removal surgery * Janie Mouser (Gloria Moore's daughter-in-law's mother) is still in ICU but is improving *

Continue praying for these members of our church family: Louella Akers * Kristi Altman * John David Barnett * David Burleson * Janie Burleson * Pam Claeys * Scott and Judy Flannery * Sue Flowers * Patsy (Hardy) Gregg * Grant Howard * Don Jackson * Morris Karnes * Sonja Mays * Darlene McGowan * Helen McGowan * Jeff McGowan * Kevin Mickey * Reba Owens * Ida Roberts * Gayle Rodgers * Waynetta Rodgers * Elwood Rush * Jane Smith * Leon Smith * David Terrill * Bettie Thurston * Marty Watson * Sharlette Watson

Those dealing with cancer (non congregational) :

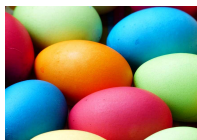
Cathy Bennett * Gina Bogle * Roxanne Carson * Sherry Chambers * Randy Cravens * Bill Fitzpatrick * Jo Carolyn Flowers * Kim Goins * Ronnie Goins * LeAnn Jacques * Tommy Jacques * Pam Jeralds * Holly Johnson * Andy Kelley * Connie Lemmons * Annette Lumsden * Ponna Mahan * Paula Mason * Betty Nicholson * Keagan Owens * Tammy Telker * Bobby Thornton * Paula Walls

Other health issues (non-congregational):

DeeDee Burch * Mary Burke * Diana Gavel * Jerry Grimes * Lem Hubbard * Dana Jo Jackson * Clyde Jacques * Lola Johnson * Beckie King * Nikki Lawrence * Jerry Don McGowan * Paul Maddox * Brenda Robinson * Gene Rowland * Kevin Steed * Traci Suiter * Paige Tanner * Heather Whitehead * Eva Latham

Easter Potluck

An Easter potluck dinner will be held following morning worship services today. All are welcome and invited to attend.



Attention 2021 seniors/parents: It's time to start compiling pictures for our senior appreciation night. Please submit 30 to 50 photos via hard copy or flash drive/email to the church at your earliest convenience. Thank you!



Our Shut Ins

Pauline Allen * Fern Botsch * Pam Claeys * Travis Cooper * Sue Flowers * Don Jackson * Shirley Johnson * Sonja Mays * Elwood Rush * Bettie Thurston * Marty Watson * Joy Watson

In Sympathy:

Sympathy is extended to Joy Watson in the loss of her sister, Lois Smelser, who passed away March 26. Lois' funeral service was held March 30 in Malden.



Sympathy is extended to Jeanie Robinson and Jane Smith, and the Averett family in the loss of Fannie Averett. Fannie passed away March 29, and her funeral service was held in Dexter April 3.

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For Jesus to conquer death for us, he had to enter the Hadean world of the dead and defeat its powers of sin, the devil, and hell (1 Peter 4:19; Ephesians 4:8-9). Jesus did. Jesus entered death for us to conquer it and make it captive so it couldn't separate us from God (Romans 8:35-39). That means when we face the reality of saying goodbye to someone in death, we can trust in Jesus for several things:

- He knows what it is like to face the fear and reality of death (Mark 14:32-36).k
- He has defeated death's power so that we don't have to fear it (Hebrews 2:14-18).
- He has guaranteed to us that death will not separate us from God's love and presence (Romans 8:35-39).
- He has ensured that death and the grave do not have the final word for us, but instead, reunion with him and all those who are his is our certain future. (1Thessalonians 4:13-18)

Jesus died. He was buried. He was raised from the dead. Each of those reminds us that Jesus was not some antiseptic hero from a distance. Instead, God, the only Son, was one of us in every way so that we could be assured that nothing could separate us from God's love for us.

Buried! Yes, Jesus was buried. Our Lord's burial, however, wasn't the final act of his life. Neither will any of our burials be the final act of our lives. Because of God's grace for us in Jesus, death cannot hold us, and no grave can keep us.

As the apostle Paul declared: *Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?* (1 Corinthians 15:55).

Phil Ware and James Nored, www.heartlight.com

IN THE GARDEN

My dad loved to sing the old hymns. One of his favorites was "In the Garden." A few years back, we sang it at his funeral. The chorus is simple: "And He walks with me, and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own, and the joy we share as we tarry there none other has ever known." That song brought joy to my dad - as it does to me.

Hymn writer C. Austin Miles says he wrote this song in spring 1912 after reading chapter 20 of the gospel of John. "As I read it that day, I seemed to be part of the scene. I became a silent witness to that dramatic moment in Mary's life when she knelt before her Lord and cried, 'Rabboni [Teacher].'"

In John 20, we find Mary Magdalene weeping near Jesus' empty tomb. There she met a man who asked why she was crying. Thinking it was the gardener, she spoke with the risen Savior - Jesus! Her sorrow turned to joy, and she ran to tell the disciples, "I have seen the Lord!" (v.18).

We too have the assurance that Jesus is risen! He's now in heaven with the Father, but He hasn't left us on our own. Believers in Christ have His Spirit inside us, and through Him we have the assurance and joy of knowing He's with us, and we are "His own." Alyson Kieda