



TRUE LIGHT

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

April 10, 2022

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Sunday School :

9:30 a.m.

Worship:

10:15 a.m.

5:00 p.m.

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
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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**

SEED, TOWEL, PROMISE & TORCHLIGHT: THE PROMISE

The four items of our focus - The Seed, the Towel, the Promise, and the Torchlight - seem so ordinary, so simple. These four items were part of the day-to-day world of Jesus. He often used the example of a seed in his teaching. A towel was part of the mandatory washing before meals in Jewish society. God's promise was the currency of the Jewish faith. Torchlight was all they had to drive the darkness away. Four common things from Jesus' world become four key witnesses to Jesus and his glory. Today, we look at The Promise!

Setting the Stage: Jesus was going away. His departure would come in two phases: he would be crucified, and then a little later, he would go back to the Father. His beloved band of men and women weren't ready for either stage of his leaving. They had refused to hear his repeated warnings of his impending rejection, ridicule, death, and resurrection as he approached Jerusalem.

With the Last Supper, however, his foreboding future began to dawn in the hearts of his ragtag band of friends. Fear, panic, devastation, confusion, and brokenheartedness awaited them. He knew it. They sensed it. That is why he repeated his promise to them in different ways during his last hours with them.

Jesus would soon be gone. What would they do? How would they survive, much less accomplish their mission? How would they recall all that he had done, taught, and shown them? How would they lead a new movement when they hadn't been very good followers? What would fill their longing for his presence in the depths of their souls? Jesus' promise!

Jesus gave the promise to speak comfort and hope into this place of deep longing and confusion in his disciples' hearts: [Jesus promised his disciples] *If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will **give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever** - the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for **he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them. Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them*** (John 14:15-23 - Bold text added for emphasis).

The Power of Jesus' Promise: The power of the Lord's promise can be found in three realities:

1. Jesus' impending agony and abandonment.
2. The disciples' longing for Jesus' presence in the near future.
3. Their need, along with our own, for Jesus' comfort, hope, and power to live our mission for the kingdom in a hostile world.

That Jesus faced the gruesome and torturous truth of the first reality makes the promises that address the second and third realities all the more gripping. Jesus was facing something hard for us to imagine; yet in the shadow of his unfolding nightmare, the Lord's thoughts were on his band of spiritual friends and on those of us who now believe because of their testimony.

Deep Grace in Jesus' Promise: Jesus would soon face the beatings from the soldiers. In a few short hours, he would feel the spit of those who hated him run down his face. Not too many minutes would pass before he would face the savage lash of the scourging demanded by Pilate. Less than a day later, he would endure the ridicule of his religious leaders as they pressed Pilate for his execution. Before that day was over, he knew that he would hear the mockery of his people at the foot of his cross while his lifeblood cooled with the temperature of his own death. Yes, the tortures of the cross and his feelings of abandonment were on his immediate horizon.

In the middle of all of this impending agony, however, Jesus fashioned a deep grace for us. His immediate question was not, "O Father in heaven, how can I endure this impending agony?" Instead, his focus was upon those he loved, "O Father, help me prepare these precious people because they have no clue what is about to happen and how they will survive without me."

The Lord's first absence would shake his first disciples to their core, cause them to doubt their reasons for faith in him, overwhelm them with shame for their weakness, and call into question their future. He knew this. So, he chose to minister to their sense of loss, failure, and overwhelming shame at deserting him in his hour of need. In the shadow of his Passion, Jesus gave them, and us through them, his promise.

Continued on back

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

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



CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Dried Onions * Dishwashing Detergent
* Trail Mix * Freezer Bags (2 Gallon) *
Tissues (ie Kleenex) * Toilet Paper
Pick-up date: June 13

WILLING TO SERVE

April 10, 2022

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Cameron Traw
Opening Prayer.....Darrin Shipman
Scripture.....Justin Allen
Prayer.....Zack Tanner
Closing Prayer.....Jeff Rodgers

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Rodney Williams
Prayer.....Wayne Reams
Scripture.....David Carson
Dismissal.....Jess Lecroy

Wednesday, April 13, 2022

Song Leader..... Jacob Clayton
Prayer.....Joe Watson
Dismissal.....Sam Garner

April 17, 2022

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Joe Watson
Opening Prayer.....Jon Neely
Scripture.....Jason Karnes
Prayer.....Jonathan Simmons
Closing Prayer.....Cameron Traw

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Rodney Williams
Prayer.....David Carson
Scripture.....Sam Garner
Dismissal.....Jerry Burleson

Continued from front:

I will not abandon you. I won't leave you orphans. I will come to live in you, be with you, show myself to you, and make my home with you. I will send you the Holy Spirit to be your advocate. The Spirit will be with you forever, reminding you of what I have said and done. My Holy Spirit will empower you to do your mission and even greater things than I have done.

He Thought First of His Disciples: The power of Jesus' promise is when he uttered it: in the flickering light of the oil lamps in the upper room and the shadows of the journey to the Garden of Gethsemane. In Jesus' most fearful, most lonely, and most threatening moments, he first thought of the men and women who loved him. In the suffering and shadows of his cross-defined death, the Lord thought of you and me! Why?

Jesus thought of us first! With all that he was about to face, he cared more about us than his own suffering. But, why? So that in our worst moments of suffering, loneliness, shame, failure, loss, isolation, emptiness, powerlessness, and abandonment, we could always know that we have what he did not: We have him! We are never alone. No matter how we feel, he will never leave us or forsake us. No matter where we are or what we carry as our burdens and failures, he has already chosen to be with us through the Holy Spirit. We know this because, in the growing shadows of his own rejection, ridicule, and death, he was thinking of us and gave us his promise!

God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?" (Hebrews 13:5-6). Phil Ware, www.heartlight.com

Attendance for April 3: 100
Contribution for April 3: \$4609

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Remember: Mary Barnett is in room 2002 at Poplar Bluff Regional. Her condition remains unchanged * **Don Jackson** has been experiencing some issues with weakness * **Marty Watson** as he prepares to move to the VA Nursing Home * **Judy Snyder** at home recovering from heart and lung issues * **Kristi Altman's** cancer has spread to her brain, and she is not doing well * **Woody Wood** has a spot on his lung and is waiting on biopsy results * **Jerel Jester** will see his cardiologist tomorrow * **Mike Duley** waiting on test results and continues to have issues from a foot injury several months ago * **Darrin Shipman** will be having knee replacement surgery May 2 * **Roxanne Carson** is home and improving * **Louella Akers** has been unable to have her treatments recently, but is feeling better and hopes to continue them soon * **Doris Minor** (friend of Gaye Miller) struggling with cancer and other health issues *

Continue praying for these members of our church family: Louella Akers * John David Barnett * David Burleson * Janie Burleson * Scott and Judy Flannery * Sue Flowers * Patsy (Hardy) Gregg * Sonny Ingle * Don Jackson * Sonja Mays * Curtis McClard * Darlene McGowan * Helen McGowan * Jeff McGowan * Kevin Mickey * Reba Owens * Ida Roberts * Gayle Rodgers * Waynetta Rodgers * Jane Smith * Leon Smith * David Terrill * Bettie Thurston * Gunner Townsend * Sharlette Watson

Those dealing with cancer (non congregational) :

Chastity Beard * Cathy Bennett * Gina Bogle * Roxanne Carson * Sherry Chambers * Randy Cravens * Chris Daley * Bill Fitzpatrick * Jo Carolyn Flowers-Noe (not doing well) * Kim Goins * Ronnie Goins * Patricia Greninger * Neal Halford * LeAnn Jacques * Tommy Jacques * Pam Jeralds * Holly Johnson * Connie Lemmons * Ponna Mahan * Linda Morgan * Paula Mason * Betty Nicholson * Keagan Owens * Tammy Telker * Bobby Thornton * Paula Walls

Other health issues (non-congregational):

DeeDee Burch * Mary Burke * Jodi Claeys * Ruth Dauck * Jerry Grimes * Katie Hicks * Grant Howard * Clyde Jacques * Lola Johnson * Beckie King * Nikki Lawrence * Shug Lee * Jerry Don McGowan * Baby Owen * Brenda Robinson * Gene Rowland * Beth Schwendemann and family * Kevin Steed * Traci Suiter * Paige Tanner * Heather Whitehead * Eva Latham

Our Shut Ins

Louella Akers * Fern Botsch * Travis Cooper * Sue Flowers * Don Jackson * Sonja Mays * Reba Owens * Bettie Thurston * Marty Watson * Joy Watson

Looking Ahead

There will be an Easter Egg Hunt this afternoon at 4 p.m. Please see Millie if you have any questions.

Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal to be announced. Desserts will be needed.

We will have potluck-style Easter dinner next Sunday following morning worship. If you would like to attend, there is a sign-up sheet on the table in the foyer.

Austin Holiman will be our guest speaker April 24 for both services.

There will be a graduation open house for Maura Thomason April 30 from 11:30-3 at the community center in Risco. Everyone is invited - come hungry!

Eddie Cloer from Truth for Today will be our guest speaker Sunday morning, May 1.

Ladies are requested to wear a hat Sunday, May 8, in honor of Mother's Day and their ancestors. If you would like to participate and are in need of a hat, please see Trish Baldwin.

Ladies Lunch Out Tuesday, May 10. Location to be announced.

Senior Recognition Sunday will be May 15, following evening worship. Our seniors this year are Avery Caroline Neely and Maura Thomason.