



Prayer Requests:

"Pray for one another"

- James 5:16 -

- Louis Bureau - facing yet another surgery on his left shoulder in order to repair a damaged tendon, obviously missed in previous surgery; also requests prayers for his family
- Josiah Carelse & Family - working with the Lord's church in Cape Town, South Africa
- Diane Cote - left leg amputated up to the knee as a result of diabetes; now using a temporary prosthesis and undergoing prosthetic rehab
- Filomena Derecho (Cathy's mother in the Philippines) - numerous health issues
- Reyderick Derecho - permanently disabled
- Donna Doucette - do to severe arthritis, she will be needing replacement surgery in both knees
- Kate Ivory (niece of Robbie Andrews) - Please pray for her spiritual welfare as she studies God's word with our brother Robbie
- Terry Kennedy - being scheduled on May 9th for a much needed hip replacement surgery
- Please pray for our nation (1 Timothy 2:1-3)
- Please pray that we might find a suitable and affordable permanent meeting place
- Please pray for those not with us today — the sick & suffering and those who are spiritually weak & struggling

Easter is a national holiday originally intended to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. While it's good that our nation & the religious world at least acknowledge the resurrection of our Lord, faithful Christians remember His crucifixion and resurrection when they assemble for worship and observe the Lord's Supper every first day of the week—Sunday (1 Cor 11:23-29). As the Lord Himself has commanded: "This do in remembrance of Me" (Luke 22:17-20). Doing this is part of our worship and is at the very heart of the Christian faith (1 Cor 15:3-4; 13-17). †

The Dynamics of Disobedience



We would certainly expect disobedience from "the children of disobedience," who walk "according to the course of this world," who conduct themselves in the lust of the flesh, "fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind," and are by nature children of wrath (Eph 2:2-3). But we would certainly *not* expect that those "who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God" (Heb 6:4-5), to willfully and deliberately disobey the commands of their heavenly Father. But sadly, it does happen. Why does it happen?

The first dynamic in play is the problem of pride. When *self*-will surpasses and supplants *God's* will in the heart of the believer, the heart gradually becomes "hardened through the deceitfulness of sin" (Heb 3:13). Left unchecked (with no repentance or restoration), the inevitable result is "an evil heart of unbelief" that ultimately departs from the living God (Heb 3:12). Thus, we read the Apostle Paul's mournful lament, "Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world" (2 Tim 4:10). The prideful spirit exalts *self* which places *self*-will in opposition to *God's* will. This is not a good place for one to remain for very long. Initially, the proud heart will attempt to amend or modify the commandments of God, but later on in the process will simply and summarily reject them (Mk 7:9).

The second dynamic involved in the process of disobedience is a lack (or loss) of love. Jesus told the church in Ephesus, "You have left your first love" (Rev 2:4). Those in this category are losing sight of the fact that "God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus" (Eph 2:4-6). These gospel truths are to be faithfully embraced and fondly cherished in the

heart of the believer. After all, "We love Him because He first loved us" (1 Jn 4:19). And it is "the love of Christ that constrains [compels and motivates] us" (2 Cor 5:14).

If one sincerely loves the Lord his God with all his heart, soul, mind and strength (Mk 12:30), and earnestly seeks "first the kingdom of God and His righteous" (Mt 6:33), disobedience to God's commands will be the furthest thing from his mind. As Jesus plainly taught, "If you love Me, keep My commandments" ... "If anyone loves Me, He will keep My word" ... "He who does not love Me, does not keep My words" (Jn 14:15, 23-24). "Therefore, we make it our aim ... to be well pleasing to Him" (2 Cor 5:9). "For the Lord takes pleasure in His people; He will beautify the humble with salvation" (Ps 149:4). —**Terry Schmidt** ✍



"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

- Acts 16:30 -

Hear the Gospel - John 6:44-45; Rom 10:14,17

Believe [trust in] God - John 3:16; 8:24; Ac 16:31
Heb 11:6

Repent of sins - Luke 13:1-5; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30

Confess Christ - Mt 10:32-33; Ac 8:36-37;
Rom 10:8-10

Be baptized - Mk 16:16; Ac 2:38; 8:36; 22:16;
1 Pet 3:21

Be faithful unto death - Mt 7:21; Rev 2:10

☺ **Welcome Visitors** ☺

We are glad you have come to worship with us today. We want you to know that you are welcome. Please don't hesitate to ask if you have questions or if we can help you in any way. Also, please fill out one of our visitor's cards before you depart.



Have a great week! ☺



Happy Birthday!

Justin Kennedy - April 2nd

Kathleen Judkins - April 10th



WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS

for APRIL

Preaching: Terry Schmidt

Song Leader: Terry Schmidt

Opening Prayer: Jason Kennedy

Scripture Reading: George Cuvellier

Lord's Supper:

Jim Miller (lead) & Louis Bureau

Announcements & Closing Prayer:

Wayne Sampson

Lord's Supper Prep: Terry K

Visits to Our Web Page

Last Week: 5,324

This Month: 22,302



SNACKS!

March 31: Jan

April 7: Cathy

Attendance & Contribution

for March 24, 2024

Attendance — 0

(Services not held due to ice storm)

Order of Worship

March 31, 2024

“What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.”

📖 - 1 Corinthians 14:15 - 📖

Song Leader: Terry Schmidt

Song—11

Opening Prayer: George Cuvellier

Song—27

Scripture Reading: Jim Miller

~ 1 Samuel 15:18-23 ~

Song—649

The Lord's Supper

Louis Bureau (lead) & Wayne Sampson

Song—268

Sermon: Terry Schmidt

“Lessons from a Disobedient King”

Song—644

Announcements & Closing Prayer

Jason Kennedy

Lord's Supper Prep: Jan Sampson

Southern Maine Church of Christ

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We love Him, because He first loved us.

- 1 John 4:19 -

March 31, 2024

Meeting on the Lord's Day:

9:30 am — Bible Class

10:30 am — Worship

“Let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”

- Hebrews 10:24-25 -

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