

# Midway Church of Christ



## WHAT IS A LAMENT?

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not!” Luke 13:34

These words are Jesus’ lament over the city of Jerusalem as He responds to threats upon His life. A lament is a passionate expression of grief or sorrow. Look closely at our Savior’s words.

First, see the double use of the title: “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem.” This double use of terms shows the Lord’s concern. He was concerned about Martha’s distractions, so He says, “Martha, Martha, thou art anxious and troubled about many things” (Luke 10:38-42). Jesus was concerned for Peter’s faith, so He says, “Simon, Simon, Satan desires to have you, that he may sift you like wheat” (Luke 22:31). So, here, the Lord is concerned for the spiritual status of many in Jerusalem. Later, He explains, “Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things which make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes” (Luke 19:42).

Then, note the character of the city, “the city that kills the prophets.” Jerusalem was known for attacking the preachers sent to it (cf. Jeremiah 26:20-23) and it was on the verge of killing the Prophet, in crucifying Jesus (cf. Acts 3:22-24; Matt.21:35). Listen to Stephen: “Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered” (Acts 7:52,53). Sin has a way of settling down in an area – like Jerusalem. Plus, what is this hatred toward preachers, which is present even today? Is it envy, fear, vanity, ignorance? Romans 10:15 quotes from Isaiah 52:7 and says, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!”

Next, we are reminded of Jesus’ affection for all of us. He considers us as His little children, his chicks. “How often I would have gathered you together as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings...” The Lord wants to protect us “under His wings” (cf. Ruth 2:12; Psa.17:8; 36:7). No one loves us like God and He proves it on the cross (Romans 5:8)!

The crux of the lament is this: the fox is after the chicks and Jesus is offering us protection but “you would not” (Luke 13:34; Matt.23:37). Jerusalem was ignoring their God and we are often likewise guilty. God honors us by making us in His image and giving us the ability to choose Him if we will. Listen to Jesus: “you refuse to come to me that you may have life” (John 5:40).

Jesus grieved over Jerusalem, but perhaps it’s not too late for us or is it? Can we put away sin, ignorance and hatred and recapture a love for the gospel?

--David

## Sunday, May 28

Greeters Larry & Kay Little  
Bible Reading Roger Thomas  
Devotional Prayer Nathan Lee  
Song Leader (AM & PM) Paul Gilliland  
Worship Prayer Houston Hutto

### Lord's Table

(B) Paul Rogers (J) Jamie Patterson  
Larry Peebles (O) Casey Pirtle  
Frank Pitts Rayford Morgan  
Roger Jones Roger McCaghren

Announcements Sam Scott  
Dismissal Prayer Larry Little  
Control Room (Sunday & Wednesday)  
-Streaming Kenneth Grover  
-Songs/Audio Mark Biles  
Prepare Communion Jennifer & Keslee Addison

### Sunday Evening

Opening Prayer Ken Nelson  
Dismissal Prayer Tim LeMay

## Wednesday, May 31

Song Leader James Rogers  
Closing Prayer Danny Standridge  
Ushers Nathan Lee-Aaron Fletcher  
Lock Building Houston Hutto-Mark Biles

## Sunday, May 21

Greeters Nathan & Regina Lee  
Bible Reading Windell Denney  
Devotional Prayer Jerry Hall  
Song Leader (AM & PM) Aaron Fletcher  
Worship Prayer Rex Free

### Lord's Table

(B) Harry James (J) Matt Addison  
Bryant Addison (O) Brex Fuller  
Jimmy Jones Tom Wilkerson  
Brent James James Rogers

Announcements Tim Hester  
Dismissal Prayer Preston Grover  
Control Room (Sunday & Wednesday)  
-Streaming Chris James  
-Songs/Audio Will Fletcher  
Prepare Communion Kellie James-Anna Barker

### Sunday Evening

Opening Prayer Josh Jones  
Dismissal Prayer Marl Fuller

## Wednesday, May 24

Song Leader Ben Rogers  
Closing Prayer Kenneth Grover  
Ushers Sam Scott-Chuck Cleghorn  
Lock Building Houston Hutto-Mark Biles

April '23							June '23						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	25	26	27	28	29	30	
30													

# May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	1	2 Tami Beddingfield	3 Ida Scott	4	5	6 Roger & Sherrie Thomas Chuck & Jill Cleghorn
7	8 Denine Thomas	9	10	11	12	13
14 Graduate Recognition	15	16	17 Brice Gilliland	18 Jannie Williams Jacob & Megan Pitz	19 Phyllis LeMay	20 Tim & Emily LeMay
21 Lily Hutto	22	23	24	25 Nathan & Regina Lee	26 Summer Macon	27 Jennie Denney
28 Jimmy Jones Elders Meeting Group Meetigs	29	30	31	1 Jerry & Patty Huskey	2 Aaron Fletcher	3

SICK & PRAYERS

- Corine Cahela hasn't been feeling well.
- Continue to remember Chris, Alison and baby Chloe James in your prayers as they are still in Utah. Chloe is still in NICU but doing well. Address..935 E South Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84102 - Room 103.
- Gwen Owens will be seeing a specialist in Vanderbilt. Keep him in your prayers.
- Edwina Brown, friend of Bonita Jones, will be going home for rehab and home health care May 29th. Address..287 Co Rd 599, Moulton, AL 35650.

ELDERS		MINISTER
Roger Thomas	Harry James	David Barker
Brent James	Sam Scott	
Nathan Lee		

DEACONS

**Benevolence**  
Deacon: Windell Denney

**Visitations**  
Deacons: All

**Education**  
Deacons: Jamie Patterson, Houston Hutto

**Missions**  
Deacon: Larry Little

**Youth**  
Deacon: Matt Addison

**Building & Grounds**  
Deacons: Jamie Patterson, Aaron Fletcher

**Technology**  
Deacon: Tim Hester

**Worship Assignments**  
Deacon: Matt Addison

WHATEVER IT TAKES!

When asked to help with something, we sometimes say, “ I’ll think about it”, “I’ll try to be there” or “If I can find the time.” We should have the same spirit Jesus took to the cross with Him. What if Jesus had said, “I’ll think about it”, I’ll try to be there” or “If I can find the time”. Instead He said, “Whatever it takes.”

As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. 1 Peter

GOOD MEDICINE

A man in San Francisco blew through an intersection without realizing the traffic light had a camera. A week later he received a picture of his car and a ticket for \$40 in the mail. He decided to have a little fun. He wrote out a check, took a picture of it, and sent it to the police. Two days later, the police sent him a picture of handcuffs. He got the point, and they got their money. (Albert Memmi, HtH).



At church one morning, my friend Gwen was about to start her Bible class of 4-year-olds when a little boy showed up without any identification. Gwen managed to get his first name but could not find out his last name. “Brian, what’s your daddy’s name?” she asked. “Daddy,” he replied. She tried again, “Brian, what’s your mommy’s name?” “Mommy,” he answered. Suddenly she realized exactly how she could get the answer she needed. “Brian, what does your daddy call your mommy?” His face lit up. With a grin and a deep voice, he replied, “Hey, Babe.” (Susan Boatwright, Today’s Christian Woman)

“A merry heart is good medicine” (Prov.17:22).

OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

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Searcy, AR. 72149-2477

**Lauren Hamby**  
U2658 USA 350 Student Center Circle, Mobile, Al 36688

**Ben Rogers**  
Calhoun Community College

SUMMER SERIES

What do you do with an extra minute or two? Many flock to facebook or the latest “youtube” post. Christians have a different approach. We have the Heavenly Father and “his ears are open unto our prayers” (I Peter 3:12). We “pray without ceasing” (I Thess.5:16,17). This year’s summer series, in the auditorium on Wednesday nights, will draw our attention to the importance of prayer.

TEACH THE WORD, CHURCH!

Jesus tells us that He is the way, the truth, and the life, and no man comes to the Father but by Him (John 14:6). How does the world learn about Jesus? Through the truth of God’s word (John 8:32; 17:17). Who is going to take it to the world? The church (Ephesians 3:10; Romans 10:14-17). Let’s get to work!

Bulletin Digest

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE.....ON HAIR

1. A PLAGUE THAT TURNED HAIR WHITE.
2. WHOSE STRENGTH WAS SAID TO BE RELATED TO HIS HAIR? \_\_\_\_\_
3. THE TYPE OF HAIR THAT CLOTHED JOHN.
4. WHOSE HAIR WAS SO HEAVY HE WEIGHED IT EVERY YEAR? \_\_\_\_\_
5. WHO COMPARED HIS BELOVED’S HAIR TO A FLOCK OF GOATS? \_\_\_\_\_
6. SEVEN HUNDRED MEN OF THIS TRIBE COULD THROW A STONE AT A HAIR AND NOT MISS.
7. WHAT WAS THE CONDITION OF SHADRACH’S, MESHACH’S, AND ABEDNEGO’S HAIR AFTER COMING OUT THE FIERY FURNACE?
8. “NOR SHALL YOU SWEAR BY YOUR HEAD, BECAUSE YOU CANNOT MAKE ONE HAIR \_\_\_\_\_ OR \_\_\_\_\_?”
9. “IF A WOMAN HAS LONG HAIR, IT IS A GLORY TO HER, FOR HER HAIR IS GIVEN TO HER FOR A \_\_\_\_\_.”
10. “DO NOT LET YOUR ADORNMENT BE MERELY OUTWARD - \_\_\_\_\_ THE HAIR, WEARING GOLD, OR PUTTING ON THE APPAREL.”

\*\* REFERENCES: I PETER 3:3-4; I CORINTHIANS 11:15; MATTHEW 5:36; DANIEL 3:26-27; SONG OF SOLOMON 6:5; MARK 1:6; JUDGES 16:10-17; LEVITICUS 13:1-3; 2 SAMUEL 14:25-26

TIME CHANGE REMINDER

Please remember that our evening service (usually conducted at 6 p.m.) will be moved to 2 p.m. today. This change will hopefully make it convenient for more of our members to support the special service scheduled for Arley church of Christ this evening. Our young ladies will help with a ladies’ devotional at 5:30 p.m. and our young men will participate in the regular worship at 6 p.m. Everyone is invited to this extra worship service this evening.



VBS UPDATE

VBS

Our annual VBS is coming up June 11-14. Classes, classrooms, teachers, advertisements, decorations, visiting teachers, nightly food preparation, etc. – are all part of this endeavor.

We are heading for another wonderful VBS. Additionally, we are planning to assist the Arley congregation with their VBS this year (that will be on the evening of June 18, 5:30-7:30 p.m.). “Farm Fresh Faith” is our theme. The Lord will surely bless us as we study the great faith of Esther, Nehemiah, Joshua, Daniel and David.

Items needed for VBS-Juice Boxes, Water, Individual bags

PART OF YOUR DAILY PRAYERS

Project Rescue is a work/program designed to help men of all ages recover from addiction. Ronnie Crocker directs this ongoing project and local churches of Christ help, both financially and morally. The main campus is in Priceville, but the work also involves a Hope House, a Help House, and outpatient care. Currently, there are 26 men in the program – 15 at the main campus, 2 men at the Hope House, 3 at the Help House and 6 are in outpatient care. Brother Crocker reports in his newsletter that two people were recently baptized into Christ, for which we are very thankful. Galatians 6:1-2 teaches Christians to help restore those who overtaken in a fault. Please keep this work in your prayers.



Upcoming EVENTS  
Make Plans to Be a Part

- Tonight, Youth service at Arley
- June 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, Vacation Bible School
- June 17<sup>th</sup>, Annual Fish Fry