

Sunday Morning Worship

August 3, 2025



FIRSTBAPTIST
CHURCH
UPPERMARLBORO

7415 SW Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

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Order of Worship

August 3, 2025

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Prayer

Call to Worship — John 1:1-5

Song — I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Song — Taste and See (Psalm 34)

Scripture Reading — Colossians 1:15-23

Pastoral Prayer

Song — Glorious (Psalm 33)

Prayer of Thanks

Worship Through Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Message — Zach Schlegel

“Stand in Awe of God”

Psalm 33

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

(Gluten Free wafers available for pick up at the Welcome Desk)

Song — Nothing But the Blood

Song — Doxology

Benediction

Comfort Rooms: To help accommodate families with small children and individuals with special needs or medical conditions, a live video feed of the worship service is available in rooms 116, 117/118, 119, 120-125.

Visitors & Guests: Stop by the Welcome Desk for church information and to receive a welcome packet.

Call to Worship — John 1:1-5 (ESV)

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Isaac Watts

Verse 1:

I sing the mighty power of God
That made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad,
And built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
The sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at His command
And all the stars obey.

Verse 2:

I sing the goodness of the Lord
That filled the earth with food;
He formed the creatures with His Word
And then pronounced them good.
Lord, how Your wonders are displayed
Where'er I turn my eye:
If I survey the ground I tread
Or gaze upon the sky!

Verse 3:

There's not a plant or flower below
But makes Your glories known;
And clouds arise and tempests blow
By order from Your Throne;
While all that borrows life from You
Is ever in Your care,
And everywhere that we can be,
You, God, art present there.

Taste and See (Psalm 34)

Jimmy Needham | Shane Barnard | Joseph Rigney

Verse 1:

I sought the Lord
And He answered me
And delivered me
From every fear
Those who look on Him
Are radiant
They'll never be ashamed
They'll never be ashamed

Verse 2:

This poor man cried
And the Lord heard me
And saved me from
My enemies
The Son of God
Surrounds His saints
He will deliver them
He will deliver them

Chorus:

Magnify the Lord with me
Come exalt His name together
Glorify the Lord with me
Come exalt His name forever

Verse 3:

Oh, taste and see
That the Lord is good
Oh, blessed is he
Who hides in Him
Oh, fear the Lord
Oh, all you saints
He'll give you everything
He'll give you everything

Bridge:

Let us bless the Lord
Every day and night
Neverending praise
May our incense rise

Scripture Reading — Colossians 1:15-23 (ESV)

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

²¹ And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, ²³ if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

Glorious

Mark Altrogge

Verse 1:

How great You are
Your greatness none can fathom
Upholding all by Your Almighty Word
The universe fulfills Your every purpose
And all You've made
Will bring You praise oh God

Chorus:

You are glorious, glorious
And we will lift our voices to worship You
You are glorious, glorious
And we will always be in awe of You

Verse 2:

You move the stars
The planets in their courses
The clouds and wind and everything that moves
You hold my life
You take my joys and sorrows
And cause them all to bring glory to You

Verse 3:

Your ways are high
Too deep for man to fathom
But You are good and this will be my theme
You sent Your Son
To live and die for sinners
So I will trust and hope in You my King

Sermon Notes

“Stand in Awe of God” :: Psalm 33

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## Church Covenant

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Having, as we trust, been brought by divine grace to repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and to give up ourselves to Him, and having been baptized upon our profession of faith, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, we do now, relying on His gracious aid, solemnly and joyfully renew our covenant with each other.

We will engage in assembling ourselves together while praying for one another. We will strive for and promote the spiritual growth and advancement of the church by; sustaining worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; contributing cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations.

As a body of believers, we agree to maintain family and personal devotions, to educate our children in the Christian faith, and to seek the salvation of our family and acquaintances. We will seek to avoid all practices or speech which bring unwarranted harm to the body or jeopardize our own or another's faith.

We will walk together in Christian love by faithfully caring for, watching over, and admonishing one another as occasions may require. In conflict, we will seek to follow Christ's example of reconciliation without delay. We will always strive to be humble and courteous in our speech and slow to take offense. We moreover engage that when we remove from this place we will, as soon as possible, unite with a like-minded church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

Nothing But the Blood

Robert Lowry

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## Verse 1:

What can wash away my sin  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus  
What can make me whole again  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

## Chorus:

O precious is the flow  
That makes me white as snow  
No other fount I know  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

## Verse 2:

For my pardon this I see  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus  
For my cleansing this my plea  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

## Verse 3:

Nothing can for sin atone  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus  
Naught of good that I have done  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

## Verse 4:

This is all my hope and peace  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus  
This is all my righteousness  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

# Doxology

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Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Amen!

This Week at First Baptist Church

Sunday, August 3

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes

10:00 AM Sunday Worship w/ Lord's Supper

Monday, August 4

Tuesday, August 5

Wednesday, August 6

6:30 PM Church Prayer Meeting

Thursday, August 7

Friday, August 8

Saturday, August 9

Sunday, August 10

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

Upcoming Events at First Baptist Church

Wednesday, August 6

6:30 PM — Church Prayer Meeting

Sunday, August 24

Church Members Meeting — immediately following worship service

Wednesday, September 3

6:30 PM — Church Prayer Meeting

Wednesday, September 10

Regular Wednesday Evening Schedule Resumes
(AWANA, Bible Study, King's Kids & Adult Choirs)

Sunday, September 14

5:00 PM — Church Picnic on the Front Lawn

Sunday, October 26

Starting Point Seminar — immediately following worship service
(Seminar for those interested in church membership. Contact the church office to register
or use the Digital Communication Card on the back of this bulletin.)

Praying with First Baptist Church

A Prayer Guide for the week of August 3

Prayer of the week:

Consider using the Apostle Paul's prayer from the book of 1 Corinthians 1:4-7a as a springboard for your own prayer time this week. If you're praying through the church directory, this is a great prayer to give thanks to God for the work He has done in the brothers and sisters in Christ in our church family.

"I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—so that you are not lacking in any gift..."

We recognize our need for God's help in all the areas of our lives. The categories and requests listed below are intentional ways to pray for each other as a church family. For help in knowing how and what to pray for, look up the Scripture included with each item.

Ongoing prayer items in the life of our church:

- Pray for opportunities and boldness to share the gospel with loved ones (Matt. 28:19)
- Pray for conversions (John 3:3, Acts 16:14)
- Pray for the children of our church to hear and understand the gospel and be saved. (Luke 8:8)
- Pray for the preaching of God's word – for faithfulness, fruitfulness, and God's glory (2 Tim. 4:2, 1 Cor. 2:4-5, Isa. 55:10-11)
- Pray for increased one to one discipleship relationships in our church family (Matt. 28:19-20)
- Pray for unity in our diversity both on Sunday and through the week (Rom. 15:13, Eph 4:2-3)
- Pray for continued growth and joy in the gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-5, 2 Pet. 1:12)
- Pray for growth in holiness, hatred of sin and growth in humility (Prov. 8:13, 1 Pet. 1:14-16)
- Pray for honest, loving relationships in our church (Col. 3:12-13, James 5:16)
- Pray for families: marriages to thrive, parents to teach/love/discipline carefully, and children to obey (Eph. 5:22-6:4)
- Pray that giving would be faithful, joyful, consistent, and sacrificial (2 Cor. 8:9)

Prayer items outside our church:

- Pray that our elected officials would fear God, seek His wisdom, have integrity, humility, and work together for the good of society and not self. (1 Tim. 2:1-2, Rom. 13:1-7)
- Pray for fruitful ministry in other gospel-proclaiming churches in our area. (Rom. 15:20, 1 Cor. 16:1-3, Matt. 28:19-20)

- Pray that God would bring a swift end to wars going on throughout the world and establish peace. Pray for protection and care for the many refugees fleeing to safety. Pray that those impacted would trust in God in the midst of their suffering. (Ps. 139:23-24)
- Pray for those recently effected by natural disasters (flooding in Texas and New York). Pray God would provide for immediate needs and preserve life. Pray God would comfort those grieving the death of loved ones. Pray for relief workers to work safely and quickly to bring stability (Psalm 119:88; 34:18)
- Pray for our ministry partners locally and around the world—Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware (BCM/D), North American Mission Board (NAMB) and International Mission Board (IMB). Pray especially for those we have direct partnerships with: Jeremy McClain (Mercy of Christ Fellowship Church, DC), Joel Kurz (The Garden Church, Baltimore), Daniel and Brandy Spandler-Davison and Susanna Schriever (Bangkok City Baptist Church, Thailand). Pray the gospel would flourish and churches would be planted and strengthened through their work. Pray that God would supply their needs. (Ps 93:4, Col. 1:5-6, 1 Pet. 4:12-17)

Particular prayer items in the life of our church:

- Pray that God would help our church family use the summer season for unique opportunities of evangelism, to build each other up, and to love one another well (Rom. 12:9-21)
- Pray that God brings good spiritual fruit in the lives of our children and students through Vacation Bible School (June 23-27) and Youth Summer Camp (July 13-17). (Gal 5:22-23)
- Pray that our church family would not grow weary of doing good. Pray that we would live and interact with one another in a way that reveals God's steadfast love and mercy to the world. (Gal 6:9)
- Pray that we know a profound contentment no matter what circumstances we find ourselves in – a contentment from knowing God is our help. (Heb. 13:5-6)
- Pray God would guard our church from fear, anxiety, and disunity. Pray that we would trust that God is good and be assured that He is in control. (John 13:34-35)
- Pray that God would help us comprehend his good design for the church and center our lives around it for the sake of his glory being made known. (Eph 3:10; 3:21)
- The following individuals have expressed particular prayer concerns:

Margaret Austin, Alice Copeland, Connie Crawford, Jim and Pat Ernster, Jackie Jones (death of daughter), Lucie Lowe, Melissa Thomaswicks, Bonnie Trott, Glenn Walker

(To submit a prayer request, please use the Prayer Request Card available in the sanctuary and drop them in the offering basket or contact the Prayer Room at 301-952-8877.)

Ministry Spotlight

“Ministry Spotlight” is meant to bring to your attention active church ministries and programs at FBC Upper Marlboro. We hope that each month you will pray for all those serving and consider how you may support their efforts. *You may notify us if you would like to learn more about the ministries at FBCUM by using the Digital Communication Card (see QR code on the back of this bulletin). Pick up a copy of “Places to Serve” in the magazine racks near the exits for information on all the church ministries.*

Hospitality Ministry

Welcome is defined as ***greeting the arrival of a person with pleasure or kindly courtesy.***

This is the case here at First Baptist Church of Upper Marlboro. Each Sunday morning we have a Hospitality Ministry that provides greeters ready to greet everyone with a welcoming handshake, warm smile, and willingness to serve.

“Our responsibility is to exhibit the attitude and practice of Christian welcoming, which provides the atmosphere and opportunity in which visitors and guests can feel accepted, included, and loved. We see Greeters as our front line ministers of welcoming, and providing the first official point of contact with this congregation.”



When you consider that these are the people that God draws to our church so that the gospel can be heard, seen, and felt, we want to do everything we can to ensure this experience. We do this by making sure we show care and compassion toward those that God draws to Him. People bond to people, so our role is to help build or bridge relationships and friendships as people enter God’s church.

The atmosphere shifts when a person feels welcomed in God's church. If we can make a person feel welcome, comfortable, and loved we know a barrier has been broken and maybe a new relationship can be formed.

Ministry Spotlight



The Hospitality team provides members and guests with information about our Sunday service. The team also helps connect members and guests with church staff and makes our members and guests aware of where to find information about the church and its programs and services.

Typically, Hospitality team members are asked by our visitors and guests for information about the church, Sunday school (DiscipleLIFE) classes, new member's classes, locations of facilities and rooms within the church such as quiet rooms or comfort rooms, restrooms, and other spaces outside of the sanctuary. Team members are often asked to assist in helping to identify or locate members and/or guests during church services, which makes getting to know members of the congregation an important priority.

Though not required, team members may be asked to serve on occasions based on their availability. This might include serving during special church programs or services as requested by church staff for services not typically held on Sundays. However, there is no requirement to serve outside of Sunday services.



Now that you have an overview about the Hospitality Ministry. Next week we will discuss what it takes to join this team and learn the expectations of those serving. **If you have questions about the Hospitality Ministry, please contact Deacon Michael Davenport or Deacon Dimitri Louis for more information.**

Announcements

1. Church Prayer Meeting and Fellowship Meal— THIS Wednesday, August 6. We look forward to praying together, hearing testimony, and encouragement from God's Word at our prayer meeting this Wednesday at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome to come early at 5:30pm and enjoy a simple meal and fellowship. If you would like to help with the meal, contact Jess Almy. .

2. AWANA Begins Soon — Helpers Needed. Registration for AWANA will be opening soon, and we are in need of additional volunteers! Volunteers will *not* need to prepare to teach a lesson, we simply need willing church members to serve weekly. AWANA meets on Wednesday evenings from Sept—May (except 1st Wednesdays when we have prayer meeting). Volunteers are responsible to supervise a small group of children: listening to their verses and being present with them throughout the evening from 6:20-8pm. If you'd like to be considered to serve please call or text Ronnie Sweetman (410-474-3105).

3. WANTED: Preschool Volunteers. We are in great need of about 4 - 5 more adult volunteers in the nursery to help provide a caring environment for our kiddos during worship. This will continue to allow us to offer a six-week rotation schedule. There are no special skills required except a love for kiddos and their families. Volunteers are expected to serve about every 6 weeks, which works out to only 8 times a year. Positions are available for all age groups. If you would like to find out more, please contact either Pam Jensen or Ashley Meekins-Smith ASAP. We're working out the next two 6-week rotations now.

4. Join the Intercessory Prayer Ministry. This ministry provides prayer for our leadership, members, and those with whom we partner in ministry. Team members are expected to devote one hour a week praying in the prayer room and following up with various requests and information updates. If you are interested in serving in this ministry or getting more information, please contact the ministry team leader, Bernice McGuire (301-233-3303).

5. Giving. We thank God for the faithful giving of our church family that sustains the gospel ministry here at FBC Upper Marlboro. As a reminder, there are three ways you can give:

- online: click the link or scan the QR code,
- in-person: designated boxes in the church foyer or during the worship service,
- by mail: send to the church office.



Church members with a benevolence request, please contact the church office.



Digital Communication Card

Are you interested in receiving more information about the church, meeting with a pastor, or sharing a prayer need? Scan the QR code to fill in our digital communication card and someone will follow up with you. You're always welcome to contact the church office: 301-952-0117.

Praying Psalm 33 — Stand in Awe of God

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For 2 or 3 days this week, set aside 15 minutes to pray through Psalm 33. For help on how to pray the Psalms, refer back to the bulletin insert from July 6 “Singing and Praying the Psalms Guide”.

**Psalm 33. THE STEADFAST LOVE OF THE LORD.** <sup>1</sup> Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright. <sup>2</sup> Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings! <sup>3</sup> Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

<sup>4</sup> For the word of the LORD is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness. <sup>5</sup> He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.

<sup>6</sup> By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host. <sup>7</sup> He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; he puts the deeps in storehouses.

<sup>8</sup> Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him! <sup>9</sup> For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.

<sup>10</sup> The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. <sup>11</sup> The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations. <sup>12</sup> Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

<sup>13</sup> The LORD looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man; <sup>14</sup> from where he sits enthroned he looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth, <sup>15</sup> he who fashions the hearts of them all and observes all their deeds. <sup>16</sup> The king is not saved by his great army; a warrior is not delivered by his great strength. <sup>17</sup> The war horse is a false hope for salvation, and by its great might it cannot rescue.

<sup>18</sup> Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love, <sup>19</sup> that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine.

<sup>20</sup> Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and our shield. <sup>21</sup> For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name. <sup>22</sup> Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

**Praising God:** Take a moment to review the commands in vv1-3. Is your relationship with God marked by this fervency, joy, and zeal? What is true about God in vv4-19 that help us to praise, give thanks, and shout for joy?

**Confessing Sin:** Are there times you have grumbled and complained rather than trusted God’s fatherly hand that works all things together for your good? In a search for security are their ways your heart has trusted in false hopes for salvation (v17) rather than waiting on God (vv20-22)? If so, confess your sin to God.

**Following God:** Take some time to reflect on the reasons to praise God in vv4-19. Based on those objectives truths, listen to and sing (with loud shouts) the truths of Psalm 33 with the help of the song we sang together, “Glorious” (see below).

## Things to Pray for First Baptist Church:

- 1. Pray that God helps us to see the beauty of God, to fear the Lord, and stand in awe of Him such that praise is ‘befits’ us.
- 2. Pray that God uses our joyful, confident hope in God to adorn our proclamation of the good news so that ‘all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him’ (v8)!

# Singing Psalm 33 — “Glorious”

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Having prayed through Psalm 33, now take the time to sing a song that was inspired by the truths of the psalm titled, “Glorious”, by Sovereign Grace Music. A recording of “Glorious” can be found anywhere you listen to music online and on today’s sermon notes page on the church website (fbcum.org). Lyrics can be found on pg. 5.

Singing and Praying the Psalms

[Psalm 33](#)

"Stand in Awe of God" – August 3, 2025



Introduction

In [1 Thessalonians](#), the Apostle Paul reminds us to give thanks in all things. Yes, you heard that correctly. If you are struggling under the weight of difficult circumstances, you may find this a challenge. How can you be thankful in difficult situations without faking it? Do you just grin and bear it? Is it possible to have real, heartfelt, genuine joy, hope and peace in the darkest of circumstances?

As we look at the big picture of Psalm 22, notice how it begins and ends. The psalmist begins with a command to "shout for joy to the Lord." This command isn't just for people who are in good, comfortable circumstances. It applies to people in difficult circumstances and trials as well. Do you think that this command feels cruel and hard?

Skip to the end...the psalmist says that "our heart IS glad in Him." Between those verses, something happened. Shouting for joy became a reality at the end. Even if the psalmist was in tough circumstances and suffering, his heart was glad. How did he get there?

Sermon Outline

1. A call to worship - vs. 1-3
2. Reasons to worship - vs. 4-19
3. The results of worship - vs. 20-22

Read & Discuss

1. Read vs. 1 – 3

Each week, we begin our time of worship with a call of worship. That is what the psalmist does here with six commands -shout for joy, give thanks, praise, make melody, sing, play skillfully on an instrument.

While you sing, you can have a fresh heart of grace as you sing. God will use a song or set of songs as a way to encourage you. When you see the glory of God, you should sing loudly because He is worthy. Sing loudly for others to hear so they can be encouraged. You can build up others by singing loudly.

Look at these verses as a mirror and ask yourself, "does this loud, exuberant praise describe me?" What is your relationship with God? Is it a burden or a duty? Now, there may be days when your walk with God seems dry. You are not on the mountain top every day. That is why you need to sing. Singing the Bible has a way of taking a cold heart and making it blaze again. Rich, beautiful doctrine, put to music, can fan the flame of your heart. Praise is fitting and beautiful for the upright.

When you are hurting and suffering, singing and giving thanks doesn't seem to fit, does it? What does seem more fitting to complain, grumble and doubt. This psalm reminds us that if you are a Christian, praise is fitting - it is appropriate in all circumstances. As a Christian, you have come to know something you couldn't see before - the glorious truths of God and His word.

2. Read vs. 4 – 19

There are two categories of reasons for praise that the psalmist includes here - God's word and God's eye.

You can praise God because God's word is **good**, righteous, straight. ([vs. 4](#)) God loves righteousness and justice. ([vs. 5](#)) Often people can be unreliable in keeping their word. Sometimes the results of that can be devastating. God is not unreliable. What He says, He always does. He is faithful and good.

God's word is **powerful**. The universe in which we live didn't just happen by chance. ([vs. 6](#)) God spoke creation into existence. He created every star, put them in their place and gave each one a name. He gathered all the quintillion gallons of water by His word. He is the Creator of all things. The proper response is to "fear the Lord;" be in awe of Him. God spoke, and it came to be! When God speaks into the darkness, "let there be light," there is light. Remember, God's word is not just a book. It is a person. ([John 1:1-5](#)) If God's word is only good and not powerful, He wants to help you but He can't. If His word is only powerful and not good, God is a tyrant. God's

word is both good and powerful.

God's word is also **caring**. God's plans are not cold, they are the plans of His heart. His words express his sovereignty for your good. Do you see why this is a reason to shout for joy and give thanks in every circumstance? He not only upholds the universe by the word of his power, but God's word is for our good. ([Romans 8:28](#)) This is God's providence. Nothing comes to us by chance. It comes by His Fatherly hand.

We can't see God's Fatherly hand. What we do see are wars, diseases, death, etc. We can't see the spiritual world. If we can't see this, how can we know that God is good? God see's what we can't see. ([vs. 12-19](#)) The Lord looks, observes, and sees. We can know that God is good and powerful and that He cares because God sees. He knows. He cares.

He sees you, and at first glance, that is terrifying. He sees everything you do. What if your evil thoughts, sinful words and sinful actions were put on the big screen for people to see? One day they will be put on the big screen. The all-seeing eye of God doesn't just see all the evil done TO you, but all the evil you have done and do. It is terrifying to know that all of our sin exposed before a holy God. Nothing earthly can help you. Your goodness cannot save you.

What hope is there? The nations raged against God's anointed - Jesus. They wanted to get rid of Jesus. ([Psalm 2](#)) When they had the opportunity, they crucified Jesus. This was the greatest injustice. Jesus did nothing deserving of death. People didn't understand. Where is the moral outrage for such an atrocity? If we only look with our eyes, it seems that praise for God would not be fitting. However, God saw what He was doing - He was working the plans of His heart. He was saving a people for Himself. Jesus' death, burial and resurrection brought the plans of the nations to nothing. Jesus took all of our sin, guilt, and shame and nailed it to the cross and exchanged it for His righteousness. You can shout for joy to the Lord because of what Jesus has done for you!! You have been made whole.

3. Read vs. 20 – 22

We've gone from the command in verse one to the experience of expressing joy in vs. 20-22. Remember, you must take your eyes off of yourself and your circumstances and look to God. This news must be shared. It is not only for you, but also for the inhabitants of the world. This is your mission. Think of a person you love who needs to be brought into the joy of the Lord. How do we share this joy with them? Through worship. The church is the nation that is blessed. ([1 Peter 2:9](#))

The world is a mess. It has been that way since Genesis 3. The church is to be different from the world by giving thanks in every situation. The church isn't spared from the storm, but the church has peace in the storm. Will you join us as we seek to bring others to experience this joy?

Prayer of Response

- 1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?
- 2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand*, *believe*, *desire*, or *do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come. If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at.

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| Next week's sermon text: 2 Corinthians 12:1-10 "Joy in Weakness" |
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Family Guide for week of August 3rd, 2025

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.



Suggestions on getting started:

- Decide on a time & place (breakfast, dinner, before bed, etc.)
- Start simple and short (ten minutes or less). Start with three things: 1) Read God's word, 2) Pray together and 3) Sing together. Scripture memory and catechism questions are *optional* if you have the time. Better to start small than bite off more than you can chew and give up.
- Be flexible. It doesn't need to look cookie-cutter similar for every family. Know yourself and know your kids: their personality, age, maturity, etc. [For younger kids consider starting with a good children's Bible like [The Big Picture Story Bible](#).]
- If you don't know the answer to a question someone has, don't act like you do! Say something like, "Great question, let me look into that." Study, ask a pastor or Christian friend and get back to them.
- Embrace the chaos. Kids are kids – don't expect it to be a perfect roundtable discussion with quiet, attentive children every time. Be patient and persistent. Patterns and habits help to set expectations over time.
- To learn more about family worship check out Donald Whitney's book (available at our church bookstall): [Family Worship: In the Bible, In History, and In Your Home](#).

Family Guide for week of August 3rd, 2025

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.



Bible Intake: (Listening to God)

Day 1 – Acts 15:1-21

Day 2 – Acts 15:22-35

Day 3 – Acts 15:36-41

Day 4 – Acts 16:1-10

Day 5 – Acts 16:11-15

*Read **2 Corinthians 12:1-10** preparation for church on Sunday, August 10, 2025

Prayer: (Talking to God)

Pray about one thing you read in Scripture together.

Pray for a few church members on pg. 20 of our church directory. Pray for any specific needs of you and your family.

Ask God to give you wisdom for today. Ask Him to guide you in the choices you make today and in the conversations you have with others.

Sing together

"Glorious" – Use the bulletin from Sunday.

Memory verses for the month

Proverbs 3:7 *"Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil."*

Colossians 1:15-16a *"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth."*

Catechism question for the week¹

Question 3: How many persons are there in God?

Answer: *There are three persons in one God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*

¹ New City Catechism (<http://newcitycatechism.com/>)