

WELCOME TO OZARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We warmly welcome you to Ozark Presbyterian Church, where we strive to live as faithful followers of Jesus our Savior and King. At the end of each pew is the friendship register – please take a moment to write down your name (and other information if it has changed or if you are a visitor) and pass it along the row and then pass it back for all to see who is sitting near to them. Please greet your neighbors at the close of the service!

Foundations Class

The men’s discipleship class will meet this afternoon at 3:30 in the fellowship hall.

Remember to Pray for:

Tom and Teresa Wilson, Deanna Smith, and
George Stulac, our missionaries

Your elders and deacons have been elected and ordained to serve you in the name of Christ. Please pray for them often and feel free to contact any one of them if you have a need or if you have any questions that they might be able to answer for you.

Diaconate: Bill Blackmon, Jr.; John Davis;
Brian McCready

Session: Frank C. Ellis, Jr., *Moderator*;
Durwood Judah, *Clerk*;
Billy Blackmon; Wes Brunson;
Jeff May, Pete Mosley

Robert McLaughlin, *deacon emeritus*,
Earl Griffin, *elder emeritus*

*We proclaim Christ, who is
the Way, the Truth, and the Life.*

*Through him we are
Taught by the Truth, and
Liberated by the Life, to
Walk in the Way.*

*The goal of our instruction is love for God and neighbor
that flows from a pure heart and
a clear conscience and
a sincere faith.*

The Confession of Our Faith

I believe in God the Father

Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord:

Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost;

Born of the Virgin Mary;

Suffered under Pontius Pilate;

Was crucified, dead, and buried;

He descended into hell;

The third day he rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven;

And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;

The holy catholic Church;

The communion of saints;

The forgiveness of sins;

The resurrection of the body;

And the life everlasting.

AMEN.

The Prayer of Dedication

The Passing of the Peace

Colossians 3:12-15

Minister: *As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, put on compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body.* The peace of Christ be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

The Benediction and the People’s Amen

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24, 28

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. AMEN.

The Postlude



OZARK
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

The Apostles’ Creed, A.D. 390

OZARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Taught by the Truth and Liberated by the Life to Walk in the Way



*...man does not live by bread alone,
but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.
~Deuteronomy 8:3*

THE ORDER FOR DIVINE WORSHIP

April 10, 2016 11:00 a.m.

Organized to the Glory of God in 1893

187 South East Avenue, Ozark, Alabama 36360

334-774-5494 (Office) 334-733-1023 (Pastor)

Frank C. Ellis, Jr., Pastor

E-mail: fellisjr@gmail.com

The Greeting

The Call to Worship John 7:37, 38
On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’ ”

The Prelude
Silent Prayer: Loving God, who has promised to be in the midst of those who call on you in truth, grant to us that we may so call on you in our assembled worship, so that, being under your protection, we may find your grace and fatherly favor more and more, and so that under the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ, we may obtain full victory over those that trouble us. AMEN. (Prayer on Psalm 63, Scottish Psalter, 1595)

The Ascription of Praise, standing as able Isaiah 55:1, 3; Psalm 42:1, 2; 51:15
Minister: Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.
People: As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God!
Minister: Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.
O Lord, open our lips,
People: and our mouth will declare your praise!

The Hymn, 164 O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

The Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

The Gloria Patri Latin Hymn, A.D. 529
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end.
Amen, Amen.
All may be seated

The Call to Confession Matthew 5:3-5
Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

The Prayer of Confession, in unison
Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much our own devices and desires. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things that we ought to have done, and we have done those things that we ought not to have done, and of ourselves we are without hope. But you, O Lord, have mercy on us miserable sinners. Spare those, Lord God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to us in Christ Jesus our Lord....

To Glorify God and to Enjoy Him Forever

The Individual Confession of Sin, in silence

The Prayer for Peace and Grace

The Assurance of Pardon John 6:35
Jesus said, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

The Psalm, 63, standing as able Insert

The Prayer for Holiness, in unison
Lord Jesus Christ, grant us such love for you, such hunger and thirst for righteousness, such desire to resemble your humanity, that we shall cease to do evil and learn to do good. From blindness to our own defects and from all hypocrisy and self-deceit, save and deliver us, O Lord, we pray. AMEN.
All may be seated

The Presentation of Tithes and Offerings
You are invited to write down your ministry and/or prayer requests (joys and concerns) on the cards in the cards in the pew racks. Please place them in the offering plate or hand them to one of the elders at the end of the service.

The Prayer of Dedication
The Offertory

The Doxology, all standing as able Thomas Ken, 1674
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav’nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. AMEN.
All may be seated

The Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord’s Prayer
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. AMEN.

The Scripture Lesson Mark 2:23-28

The Prayer for Illumination

The Sermon Pastor Frank C. Ellis, Jr.

The Hymn, 646, vv. 1, 3-5, standing as able Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

To Glorify God and to Enjoy Him Forever

Was Jesus a Thief?
In our Scripture lesson today, Mark tells us that one day, as Jesus and his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. Matthew and Luke both let us know that they did this in order to eat the grain. Wasn’t this stealing? After all, we can’t go through the grocery store and eat whatever we like from the produce section.

It wasn’t stealing because the Lord had made specific allowance for such plucking and eating. In Deuteronomy 24:24, 25, the Lord says, If you go into your neighbor’s vineyard, you may eat your fill of grapes, as many as you wish, but you shall not put any in your bag. If you go into your neighbor’s standing grain, you may pluck the ears in your hand, but you hall not put a sickle to your neighbor’s standing grain. This law didn’t justify theft; it was given to benefit the poor, and perhaps the traveler. The economics of ancient Israel included generosity to the poor and the stranger because the Lord had been so generous to his people.

Jesus recapitulated this law in principle for us, when he told his disciples in Matthew 10:8, Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. Freely you received, freely give, as did the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 4:7, What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?

So, no, neither Jesus nor his disciples were stealing when they ate grain from the farmer’s field.