

## TODAY'S ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome by: Bobby Rader /Opening Prayer by: Bob Parker

Morning Assembly Song Leader: Michael Simmons

#2 We Praise Thee, O God

#4 To God Be the Glory

#648 Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

Medley

#552 Have Thine On Way, Lord

Scripture Reading by: Rock Cary

#349 Ten Thousand Angels

**Lord's Supper and Contribution**

#595 I Come to the Garden Alone

**Sermon: "When You Come Together: Giving"**

**1 Corinthians 16:1-3**

#943 Do You Know My Jesus?

#875 Home of the Soul

Closing Prayer by: Andre Jones

Welcome by: Bobby Rader

Evening Assembly Song Leader: Michael Simmons

#180 Jesus Is Lord

#738 Take the Name of Jesus With You

Scripture Reading: Tristan Strickhausen

Prayer by: Phillip Strickhausen

#570 A Beautiful Life

**Sermon: "One Word: Forgiveness"**

**Acts 15:36-40**

#940 Only a Step

#712 Jesus Is Coming So

Closing Prayer by: Ken Coleman

### Other Opportunities For Spiritual Growth

**Sunday:** 9:00am — Bible Study Classes, 10:00am — Worship, 6:00pm — Worship

**Wednesday:** 10:00am — Ladies Bible Class, 7:00pm — Bible Study Classes

February 24, 2019

## *“Stand Firm in...Liberty”*

Galatians 5:1

### Tertullian on the Offering

*Tertullian (c. 155—c. 240) was the most prolific early Christian writer in the West up until the 4<sup>th</sup> century. He was a well-educated scholar, schooled in the rhetoric that was the specialty of Roman Africa, where his home city of Carthage was located; according to the church historian Eusebius, he was a lawyer by training. He has been called the “father of Latin Christianity” and the “founder of Western theology” because of his vast influence in the early church.*

*The excerpt below is from his most important work, his Apology, a defense of Christianity. The first paragraph is an account of Christian worship, with an emphasis on the character and good deeds of Christians. But he pays particular attention to the offering in the rest of the passage. Note carefully the connection he makes between giving, Christian love, and the unity that should exist in the family of God. Those same traits should inform our contribution in the assembly.*

I will now show you the proceedings with which the Christian association occupies itself; I have proved they are not wrong; so now I will make you see they are good. We are a body knit together as such by a common religious profession, by unity of discipline, and by the bond of a common hope. We meet together as an assembly and congregation, that, offering up prayer to God as with united force, we may wrestle with Him in our supplications. This violence that we do Him pleases God. We pray, too, for the emperors, for their ministers and for all in authority, for the welfare of the world, for the prevalence of peace, for the delay of the final consummation. We assemble to read our sacred writings, if any peculiarity of the times makes either forewarning or reminiscence needful. In any case, with those holy words we feed our faith, we lift up our hope, we confirm our confidence; and no less we reinforce our teaching by inculcation of God's precepts. There, besides, exhortation in our gatherings, rebuke, divine censure. For judgment is passed, and it carries great weight, as it must among men certain that God sees them; and it is a notable foretaste of judgment to come, if any man has so sinned as to be banished from all share in our prayer, our assembly, and all holy intercourse. Our presidents are elders of proved character, men who have reached this honor not for a price, but by character; for nothing that is God's goes for a price.

### Our Sick

**Joe Edd Stiffemire** is in Methodist Hospital.

**Jean Blackburn** is having health problems.

### Continued Prayers (Need cards, phone calls & visits)

Gwen Pettit, Gary Nielsen, Harold Cryer, Steve Ward, Jackie David, Frank & Tina Garcia, Eric Davis, Mark Wilcox, Dayla Hale, Phillip Cottle, Tim Watts, Minny Owen, J. P. Williams, Doris Trahan

### Shut Ins

#### (Need cards, phone calls & visits)

Jim Smith, Pauline Taylor, Winona Angelle, Myrtle Sheffield, Ronnie Rubit, Joe Leonard, Dr. Ronald Davis, Larry Hicks

### Our Missionaries

Aaron & Marisa Bailey in Mwanza, Africa, Rod Kyle in the South Pacific

### Plastic Bags

The Food Bank is in need of plastic grocery bags. A barrel is in the foyer.

### Upcoming Activities

**Elders, Minister** meeting Monday at 7:00pm.

We will be having a Houston Food Bank truck on Tuesday, Mar. 5th at 8:00 am.

We are in the process of starting a new church recipe book. Please be thinking of recipes you would like to share. Here is the email address for the recipes: [liberty.ladiesministry@aol.com](mailto:liberty.ladiesministry@aol.com) We are collecting recipes until the end of this month.

### You are Invited

You are invited to help celebrate Iva Votaw's 80th birthday. The party is Saturday, March 2, 2019 at the Kenefick Kountry Club, 536 Cr 640, Dayton. It will be from 12:00-4:00pm. Iva has requested "**no gifts please.**" BBQ and all the trimming will be served at the party.

### Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to Debra Faneros and her family on the death of her husband John. He passed away last Saturday and the funeral was Wednesday.

Communion Preparation: Debby McKinzie  
Nursery Attendants: Jane Tinkle, Rita Upton

Communion Preparation for Sunday, Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup>: Cheryl Mast  
Nursery Attendants for Sunday, Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup>: Debra Faneros

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Even if there is a chest of a sort, it is not made up of money paid in entrance-fees, as if religion were a matter of contract. Every man once a month brings some modest coin – or whenever he wishes, and only if he does wish, and if he can; for nobody is compelled; it is a voluntary offering. You might call them the trust funds of piety. For they are not spent upon banquets nor drinking-parties nor thankless eating-houses; but to feed the poor and to bury them, to supply the wants of boys and girls destitute of means and parents, and of old persons confined now to the house; such, too, as have suffered shipwreck; and if there happen to be any in the mines, or banished to the islands, or shut up in the prisons, for nothing but their fidelity to the cause of God's Church, they become the nurslings of their confession.

Such work of love (for so it is) puts a mark upon us, in the eyes of some. "Look," they say, "how they love one another" (for themselves hate one another); "and how they are ready even to die for one another" (for themselves will be readier to kill each other). Yes, their indignation at us for using among ourselves the name of "brothers" must really, I take it, come from nothing but the fact that among them every name of kinship so far as affection goes is false and feigned. But we are your brothers as well, by the law of our common mother nature – even if you fall short of being men because you are bad brothers. But how much more fittingly are those both called brothers and treated as brothers who have come to know one Father God, who have drunk of one Spirit of holiness, who from one womb of common ignorance have come with wonder to the one light of Truth! But on this very account, perhaps, we are regarded as having less claim to be held true brothers, that no tragedy makes a noise about our brotherhood, or that the family possessions, which generally destroy brotherhood among you, create fraternal bonds among us.

So we, who are united in mind and soul, have no hesitation about sharing property. (*Apology*, 39.1-11)

*Bryant Perkins*

### ***"Stand Firm in...Liberty"***

is the weekly bulletin of the Liberty Church of Christ 3201 North Main, Liberty Texas 77575  
Office Phone Number (936) 336-2213; Fax (936) 334-8280;  
Minister's (Bryant Perkins) Cell Phone Number (903)407-5737  
Website: [libertycofc.org](http://libertycofc.org) Facebook page: Liberty Church of Christ