



Church of Christ

March 29, 2026

Open the Gates of Righteousness!

(Psalm 118; Matthew 21:1-11)

The people who gathered in Jerusalem for the festivals (Passover, Pentecost, Tabernacles) would sing Psalms that are known as “The Hallel.” They are Psalm 113-118. The last of these Psalms reminds the people of God’s steadfast love through all they had been through.

It was likely first thought of to refer to David, the king that was pressed from every side and rejected by Saul, his own brothers, and the nations that harassed Israel. It also was a reminder to the nation of Isreal that God had seen them through the wilderness and had rescued them over and over from their own failings and from other nations. For Jews today, this Psalm still carries deep meaning about surviving nearly constant persecution through the centuries.

For Christians, it is clearly a messianic Psalm that is sung about Jesus, the Christ. When we read about Jesus entering Jerusalem in Matthew 21, the people are shouting a passage from Zechariah 9:9, “Behold your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of an ass.” I am certain that Psalm 118 would have been part of what was sung. I suspect that Matthew wanted to drive the point home that Jesus was the king that was coming. The people recognized something that the leaders refused to recognize. Psalm 118 was happening again before their eyes, and they could not (would not) see it.

I do not think it is stretch to extend Psalm 118 from referring to our Savior, to also having a word to say to his church. When Jesus was talking to his disciples in John, he told them, “If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you.” Jesus knew that his followers would face rejection and be pushed from all sides. It is also true that those who follow Jesus are still the best hope for the world. Sometimes I think we forget this.

Psalm 118 is a wonderful song to sing. It is a song of victory because we know who has chosen us. If one reads Psalm 118 and then any of the gospels, they will fit perfectly together. It is one approaching Zion and will not be denied because it is God that has chosen them. It is God that opens the gates of righteousness to us. He has given us his law. He has secured us with his steadfast love. He has brought us through the wilderness. He has protected us through the attacks of our enemies.

And now we cannot be denied the opportunity of salvation because he has opened to us the gates of righteousness through his Son. This is the one who the builders rejected. It is Jesus’ life, teaching, death, burial, and resurrection that tears open the path to life and righteousness. Do we have the courage to walk that path.



When We meet:

Sunday:

Bible Study 9:30am

Worship 10:30am

Small Groups 6pm

Wednesday:

Bible Study 6:30pm

Contact Us:

Office— 9a-1p M-F

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pennyrilecoc@gmail.com

P.O. Box 161, Madisonville, KY
42431

Minister: Sean Niestrath

269-352-9134

sean.niestrath@outlook.com

Today!- No Children’s Church

Today!!- 5th Sunday Potluck & Meeting

-Moving Yard Sale Items afterwards, Large Items (Apr 6th-8th)

Tonight!- Singing Class, 4:30 pm

Tomorrow!- Women’s Prayer Group, 10:00 am

Mon & Wed– No Walking Group, 12:30 pm

April 5– No Singing Class

April 19- Singing at Oak Ridge Senior Living, 3 pm

- No Singing Class

(all events happening at the building unless otherwise noted.)



WKYC Registration Open!!

Tonight!– no meeting

Apr 5– Easter Egg Hunt, 9:30 am

-All Ages Welcome

Apr 12– Activity in Bowling Green

Contact **Jon**—270-635-1029 or

Jared—270-841-8542 for more info.



April 3– Brenda Pruitt

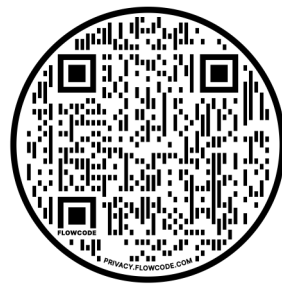
April 3- Zach Pressley

We are glad you’ve joined us for worship today!

***Communion**—We celebrate the resurrection of our Lord every Sunday (“first day of the week”) through a time of communion known as the Lord’s Supper. The “unleavened bread” represents His body and the “fruit of the vine” (cup of grape juice) represents His blood shed on the cross. As our guest, you are welcome to participate, though you are not required to do so.

***Giving**— We are challenged to be good stewards of God’s blessings by supporting the various ministries of the church through a weekly collection that is taken during our worship time. You are welcome to give, but please do not feel as though you must.

Welcome Guests! Please scan the QR code or fill out our Connection Card-Red Folder . Let us know how we can help.



Welcome to Worship



Children's Song

Cong. Reading: Psalm 118: 18-24

This Is the Day

Majesty

Prayer—Roger Dillingham

Be Still, My Soul

It Was Finished Upon That Cross

Lord's Supper

Presiding LS: Kenneth Ashby

Serving LS: Roger Matheny

Joshua Scott Bert Pressley

Darin Swaidner Buster Almon

He Has Made Me Glad

Contribution

No Children's Church

Solders of Christ Arise

Scripture: Matthew 21: 1-11 Steve S

Prayer—Larry Stone

Lesson— Sean Nistrath

Angels Are Singing Redemption's Sweet Song

Benediction: Psalm 118: 22-24

The Grace

TODAY—

Call to Worship: Barry Webb

Song Leader: Eric Seesengood

Monitor: Jeremy Duggin

Children's Church: None

Sound Booth: Josh Lupu

NEXT WEEK—

Call to Worship: Byron Pruitt

Song Leader: Eric Seesengood

Prayers: Brock Shoulders/Jon Stubblefield

Scripture: Ezra Bridgman

Monitor: Pete Shoulders

Children's Church: None

Sound booth: Colton Clark

Presiding LS: Terry Hampton

Serving LS: David Stubblefield, Zach Pressley,
Chason Shoulders, Keith Tapp, Micah Bridgman

Alternates for April:

Jon Stubblefield Buster Almon

Communion Prep: Ashby

For the Record

Last Sunday:

Bible Class— 50

Worship— 105

Contribution— \$3,622.00

Wednesday— 46

Announcements:

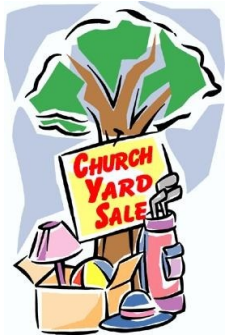
Next Quarter Adult Class:

Understanding The Apostle Paul

Volunteer signup sheet on Yard Sale room door

Directory Updates on Lobby table

Bulletin Board:



- ◆ Thank you Letters: *Donna Stephenson, Benny & Ceil Baugh, Peggy Cunningham's family*
- * Letter from Potter Children's Home, Fairview COC Ladies Day (Jun 13th)

Elders:

Barry Webb (270) 339-8429

Byron Pruitt (270) 841-7518

Dan Rust (812) 746-5635

Sean Nistrath (269) 352-9134

Missionaries/Missions

Paolo Mirabelli— Rome, Italy
mirabellipaolo1gmail.com

Marvin Rivera— Tegucigalpa, Honduras
marvinrivera1985@gmail.com
Watata, Kenya

Deacons:

Brock Shoulders, Buster Almon,
Darin Swaidner, Tim Teel,
David Stubblefield, Steve Stoltz,
Jeremy Duggin, Zach Pressley

Lisa Phillip's family, please keep them all in your prayers

Carol Warszona, recovering from foot surgery on Friday

Ed Saley, having carpel tunnel surgery on left hand, April 10th

Dexter Black, having hip surgery, April 14th

Lea Brown, recovering at home from a stroke

James Allen, recovering at home from hospital stay

Marcy Heldreth Cherry, (Shoulder's friend), has breast cancer

Donna Stephenson, doing physical therapy after a fall

Todd Templeton & family, (Ken's friends), he has cancer & they have ongoing health issues



Ongoing Health Concerns and Prayer:

Diana Adams, Kathy Black, Suzette Mooney, Sherry Rushing, Jim Miller, Sister Josephine, Jama Doc, Dennis Warszona, Barbara Lynch, Everett Beatty, Wyatt Brown, John Phillips, Linda Smith, Alberta Rust, Rebecca Nistrath, Alexis Coats, Karen Wilkerson, Benson Holmes, Lauren Turley, John Benham, Johnny Allen, Sherry Logan, Callum Pruitt, Kathy Killough

Praying For Our Military Members:

Ryan Hill, Tyler Malik, Christopher Goodale, Jason Rushing, Hans & Suraya Nistrath, Dalton Davis, Andrew Ashby, James Brahm, Christopher Brahm, Nathan Dees

Sunday 6 pm, **No Services** – 5th Sunday