



April 29, 2018

**Sunday:**

Worship: 8:00 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm  
Bible Classes: 9:30 am

**Wednesday:**

Bible Classes: 7 pm

**Shepherds:**

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Vaughn Harvey: 443-902-5460

Allen Pratt: 410-730-1075

Steve Thornton: 301-362-6785

Jody Venkatesan: 301-483-8390

Michael Wilkins: 410-480-4365

**Ministers:**

Ricky Cook

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Office Hours on Monday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Ian Drucker

Bren White

301-676-5420

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Office Hours on Wednesday, 12-6 p.m.

Tim Wood

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**Deacons:**

Kwesi Asiedu

Eric Gilbey

John Birus

Calvin Hunt

Steve Brosey

Steve Jones

Kerry Clark

Del Meadows

Phillip Cummings

Brandon Porter

Chris Forand

Jason Tate

Joe Ford

**Secretary:** Susan Ray

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## “Oh, What A Relief It Is!”

Years ago the popular jingle from an OTC product declared, *Plop, plop, fizz, fizz. Oh, what a relief it is.* Those of us that are more chronologically experienced probably remember those commercials. Ever since the fall of mankind in the Garden of Eden (*Genesis 3*), relief/rest has been an abiding concern. Saints and sinners alike (though in different contexts), have this search in common. With all the talk of mental health issues, opioid epidemic and the many secular concerns that can preoccupy life, it can be concluded that the world has not made much headway in this search.

This should come to us as no surprise. In the book of Ecclesiastes, wise King Solomon informed us long ago that life “under the sun” is vain. Solomon used this phrase repeatedly. A careful reading of Solomon’s words enables us to understand that “life under the sun” as Solomon used the term was a reference to life apart from God. Indeed, life apart from God is vain. Man was not created an independent being. The prophet Jeremiah has declared, “O LORD, I know the way of man is not in himself; It is not in man who walks to direct his own steps.” *Jeremiah 10:23*

Thus, the search for relief/rest, must start with God. Consulting the word of God, we find this great declaration, *Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, “Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.” “Yes,” says the Spirit, “that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them.” Revelation 14:13* This beatitude from the Lord lends to us both clarity and perspective.

First, this blessing is pronounced to those that “die in the Lord.” The blessing is for those who have been baptized into Christ and are still faithful to Him at the point of death. The Holy Spirit declares that these individuals will “rest from their labors.” The word “labors” carries with it the idea of toil to the point of weariness. These individuals had been serving Christ Jesus. They were not just tired from the rigors of life itself (*Job 14:1*), they were soldiers in the Lord’s army that had stood faithfully against the opposition.

Second, the word “rest” does not mean cessation of activity. Rather, it carries with it the idea of being refreshed. In heaven, Christians will still serve God – *Revelation 7:15*. It is in the power and promise of God that we find relief, joy, comfort, hope, etc. In Christ, we have the assurance that there is life after this life. In Christ, we have the comfort of knowing that our Lord will return one day and take us home to be with Him. In Christ, we have the peace of mind that comes from knowing that God has provided all that we need to make it through the One who gives us strength. Oh, what a relief it is! To God be the glory!

In Him,  
Ricky Cook

# Order of Worship

## Welcome to Worship

**8:00 AM:**

*Song Leader: Mike Wilson*

**3 Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah**

*Call to Worship: Farin Crone*

— **The River is Here**

— **He is Jehovah**

*Assistant 1: Jack Birus*

*Giving: Eric Gilbey*

*Bread: Phillip Cummings*

*Fruit of the Vine: Calvin Mitchell*

*Assistant 2: John Jones*

*Assistant 3: Bryson Gilbey*

**351 He Bore It All**

*Scripture Reading: Philippians 3:10*

*-11; Philippians 4:4-5*

*Phillip Venkatesan*

**412 Jesus, Hold My Hand**

*Sermon: Bren White*

— **How Great is Our God**

*Prayer Requests/Announcements*

**315 I'll Live in Glory (PFL)**

*Closing Prayer: Paul Wharton*

*Our songs today are from Songs of Faith and Praise, Praise for the Lord and the Supplement.*

**10:30 AM:**

*Song Leader: Allen Pratt*

— **Let Us Worship**

— **Worthy Lord**

*Call to Worship: Vaughn Harvey*

**452 Stand on the Promises**

**382 Why Did My Savior Come to Earth?**

*Assistant 1: Kweku Asiedu*

*Assistant 2: Marty Findley*

*Giving: Del Meadows*

*Bread: Chris Forand*

*Fruit of the Vine: Kwesi Asiedu*

*Assistant 3: Ivens Jeans*

*Assistant 4: Ian Huckabey*

*Assistant 5: David Reimers*

*Scripture Reading: Philippians 3:10*

*-11; Philippians 4:4-5*

*Joe Ford*

**549 There is Sunshine in My Soul**

*Sermon: Bren White*

**902 Nothing But the Blood**

*Prayer Requests/Announcements*

**712 Jesus is Coming Soon**

*Closing Prayer: Floyd Fowler*

*Our songs today are from Songs of Faith and Praise and the Supplement.*

### Guest Guide:

- Nursery and Training room are upstairs.
- Children's classes are downstairs.
- Please fill out a guest card and drop it in the collection basket.
- Personal sound receivers are available for hearing enhancement in all classes and services in the auditorium. Stop by the sound booth to get one.

### Serving Next Week: May 6th

8:00 Service	
Call to Worship	Jody Venkatesan
Assist 1	Bob Ozomah
Giving	Eric Gilbey
Bread	Paul Wharton
Fruit of the Vine	DuBois Murphy
Assist 2	Steve Jones
Assist 3	Bryson Gilbey
Scripture Reader	Paul Brosey
Closing Prayer	Calvin Mitchell
Usher 1	Rowan Crone
Usher 2	Jonathan Anglin
10:30 Service	
Call to Worship	Alan Bobo
Assist 1	Jason Blankenship
Assist 2	Teddy Williams
Giving	Del Meadows
Bread	Wayne Dellinger
Fruit of the Vine	Zane Huckabey
Assist 3	Ivens Jeans
Assist 4	Neal Wilkins
Assist 5	Leroy Bell
Scripture Reader	Ian Huckabey
Closing Prayer	Allen Pratt
Usher 1	Darius Alexis
Usher 2	Jeff Ray

**Others Serving this morning:**

Ushers: (1) Rowan Crone,  
(2) Will Evans

**Others Serving this morning:**

Ushers: (1) Dakota Dellinger,  
(2) Jason Tate



*Our Life Groups will not be meeting today so that everyone will be able to attend the Memorial Service for Ian Drucker.*

**Wednesday, April 25th**

<b>Devotional</b>	Kerry Clark
<b>Singing</b>	De Morris
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	Jody Venkatesan



*Please remember to turn off, mute or set to vibrate all cell phones and electronic devices during services.*