



September 20, 2020

Ferguson Avenue Baptist Church

10050 Ferguson Avenue ❖ Savannah, Georgia 31406

Where Christ Is Exalted and the Fellowship Is Exciting

Announcements

Church Services

Please RSVP for next Sunday, **September 27**, by filling out the Signup link we will send in an email early this week. Please choose whether to sit in the sanctuary (mask optional) or in either the piano or organ side overflow room (mask required). If you cannot access the online signup, please call the church or email Dawn at office@fabchurch.com. Our live stream schedule and links to both FaceBook and YouTube can be found on our website: www.fabchurch.com/live-stream

Evening Worship Service

Make plans to join us tonight, **September 20**, at 6:00 p.m. for our informal evening worship time in the **Fellowship Hall**. This meeting features prayer requests, with immediate prayer offered, an interview with a member, a devotional message, and great music. No signup is necessary, and there is plenty of room to spread out.

Senior Saints Bible Study

Join Tom Keller for the Thursday Morning Bible Study in the fellowship hall on **September 24**. Coffee will be provided. This study should also be streamed live on Facebook and YouTube.

Sunday School

We are meeting for Sunday School beginning **October 4!** Classes offered on page 4.

Deacon & Elder Elections

Deacon and Elder elections are coming up. Nominations are still open, so let Bob, Tom, Steve, or a current deacon know if you'd like to place a nomination.

Workers with Children & Youth

Last call! We are requiring new background checks for everyone working with our children and youth. Please contact Cindy Wise to get a form. Her email is cindy@fabchurch.com, or you can call the church. We will be updating the background checks every three years. We would like to wrap this process up, so contact Cindy as soon as possible to get your form.

Continued on p. 4

FABC Elders

Bob Dimmitt
Senior Pastor
912-398-4363
bob@fabchurch.com

Tom Keller
Assoc. Pastor/
Senior Adults
912-308-3767
tom@fabchurch.com

Steve Posner
Elder
912-704-5617
steve@fabchurch.com

Church Phone:
912-355-0949
office@fabchurch.com
www.fabchurch.com

September 20, 2020

10:30 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

1 Peter 4:7-11

Hymn, bulletin p. 5

“O Church, Arise”

Prayer of General Confession

Steve Jackson

Romans 5:8-11

Hymn, bulletin p. 6

“God, Be Merciful to Me”

Scripture Reading

Mark 1:40-45

Lance Ficek

Hymn #31, bulletin p. 7

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

Message

Bob Dimmitt

Spiritual Gifts & the Church, Part 2

1 Corinthians 12:4-8, 1 Corinthians #71

Hymn, below

“Doxology”

Old Hundred tune

Doxology

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

A.M. Notes

Spiritual Gifts & the Church, Part 2

1 Corinthians #71

1 Corinthians 12:4-8

Every believer has a vital ministry as a vital organ of the body.

Many think that this means something that the Holy Spirit tells me about you or about a situation.

Wisdom most likely included the communication of spiritual truth related to the gospel.

God's secret wisdom is known only by God's revelation. At the heart of this wisdom is the plan of salvation

Eph 1:7-9

The wisdom of God is the word of the cross, the message of Christ crucified.

Some commentator's see these as "the gift of speaking instructively."

There are two words for knowledge.

There is the word *eido* _____

& the word *gnosis* _____

Continued from p. 1

Directories

It is almost time to receive new directories! Please supply any updated address and phone number information along with an updated photo, if needed, to Dawn Stanford in the office. You can email dawn@fabchurch.com or call the office at 355-0949. Please be proactive in this, as we want the directory to be as up to date as possible! Thanks for your help!

Panera Bread Pickup and Processing

Panera Bread is again offering us their leftover baked goods on Thursday nights. We need people willing to go pick it up. When you get there at a little before 9:00 p.m., tell them you are there for the leftovers for our church. At closing, they will box it all up and bring it to you. Drive it over to the church and place the boxes in the walk in cooler. We will make arrangements with anyone who wants to help to get you access to a key. Let Dawn know if you can help out with this.

For now, we are putting the goods in the office area on Fridays for first come, first served pickup. Feel free to tell anyone you know who may want to come by, also. You can come any time until 4:30 p.m.

Sunday School Classes & Descriptions Sundays, 9:30 to 10:15 a.m.

Adult

“Psalms” Fellowship Hall: Bob Dimmitt/Chris Leverett
“Esther” Youth House: Steve Posner

Children & Students

Babies Room 3: Kay Stanford & Sandra Bridges
Toddlers & PreK Room 25: Emily Wise & Kamee Roberson/
Michael & Ruth Kleinpeter
K, 1st & 2nd Grade Room 200: John & Pam Humphrey
3rd-6th Grade Boys Room 202: Ric Zittrouer, Richie Mills
3rd-6th Grade Girls Room 204: Mary Ann Fowler, Amy Horton
Youth Guys Room 206: Bobby Deloach, Shawn Champion
Youth Girls Room 208: Jessica Dimmitt

The young child is guided, not by reflection or argument, but by feeling and affection. He cannot yet realize and honor the unseen God... The child can only honor what he sees to be worthy of honor. And this is the parent's high calling—always so to speak and act, so to live in the child's presence, that honor may be spontaneously and unconsciously rendered...

Above all, let parents remember that honor really comes from God. Let them honor Him in the eyes of their children, and He will honor them there, too. Let them beware of this sin, honoring their child more than God; it is the sure way to grief for parents and children together. But from parents, who in everything seek to honor God, children will learn to honor God and them together; the parent who teaches his child to obey the fifth commandment has guided his feet into the way of all God's commandments. A child's first virtue is the honoring and obeying of his parents.

O Church Arise

Words and Music by
Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

♩ = 58



1. O Church, a - rise, and put your ar - mor on; Hear the
2. Our call to war, to love the cap - tive soul, but to
3. Come see the cross, where love and mer - cy meet, as the
4. So Spir - it, come, put strength in ev - 'ry stride, give —



call of Christ our Cap - tain. For now the weak can say that
rage a - gainst the cap - tor; And with the sword that makes the -
Son of God is strick - en; Then see His foes lie crushed be -
grace for ev - 'ry hur - dle; That we may run with faith, to



they are strong, in the strength that God has giv -
wound - ed whole, we will fight with faith and val -
neath His feet, for the Con - quer - or has ris -
win the prize of a serv - ant, good and faith -



en. With Shield of faith and belt of truth, we'll stand a -
or. When faced with trials on ev - 'ry side, we know the
en. And as the stone is rolled a - way and Christ e -
ful. As saints of old still line the way, re - tell - ing



gainst the dev - il's lies; An ar - my bold, whose bat - tle
out - come is se - cure. And Christ will have the prize for
merg - es from the grave, this vic - t'ry march con - tin - ues
tri - umphs of His grace, we hear their calls, and hun - ger



cry is Love, reach - ing out to those in dark - ness.
which He died, an in - her - it - ance of na - tions.
till the day ev - 'ry eye and heart shall see Him.
for the day when, with Christ, we stand in glo - ry.

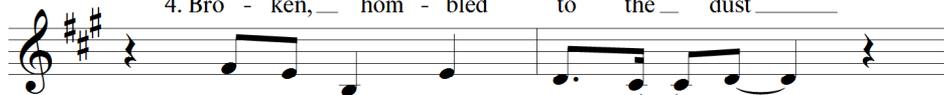
GOD BE MERCIFUL TO ME

(PS. 51)

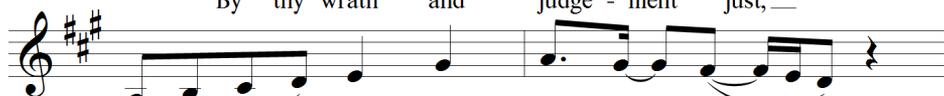
Words by Richard Redhead
Music by Christopher Miner



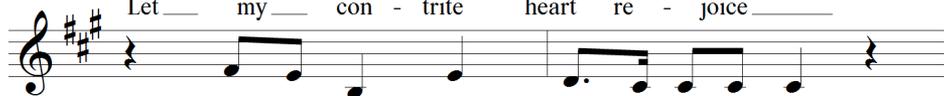
1. God, be mer - ci - ful to me,
2. My trans - gres - sions I con - fess,
3. I am e - vil, born in sin;
4. Bro - ken, hom - bled to the dust



On thy grace I rest my plea;
Grief and guilt my soul oppress;
Thou de - sir - est truth with - in.
By thy wrath and judge - ment just,



Plen - teous in com - pas - sion thou,
I have sinned a - gainst thy grace
Thou a - lone my Sav - ior art,
Let my con - trite heart re - joice



Blot out my trans - gres - sions now;
And pro - voked thee to thy face;
Teach thy wis - dom to my heart;
And in glad - ness hear thy voice;



Wash me, Make me pure with - in,
I con - fess thy judge - ment just,
Make me pure, thy grace be - stow,
From my sins O hide thy face,



Cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.
Speech - less, I thy mer - cy trust.
Wash me whit - er than the snow.
Blot them out in bound - less grace.

5. Gracious God, my heart renew,
Make my spirit right and true.
Cast me not away from thee,
Let thy Spirit dwell in me;
Thy salvation's joy impart,
Steadfast make my willing heart.

6. Sinners then shall learn from me,
And return O God to Thee
Savior all my guilt remove,
And my tongue shall sing Thy love.
Touch my silent lips O Lord,
And my mouth shall praise accord.

All Creatures of Our God and King

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

FRANCIS OF ASSISI, 1182-1226

Trans. by William H. Draper, 1855-1933.

From *Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1623

Arr. by Norman Johnson, 1928-



- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. All crea-tures of our God and King, | Lift up your voice and with us |
| 2. Thou rush-ing wind that art so strong, | Ye clouds that sail in heav'n a - |
| 3. Dear moth-er earth, who day by day | Un- fold- est bless-ings on our |
| 4. And all ye men of ten- der heart, | For- giv- ing oth- ers, take your |
| 5. Let all things their Cre- a - tor bless, | And wor- ship Him in hum- ble- |
| <i>Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow,</i> | <i>Praise Him, all crea- tures here be -</i> |



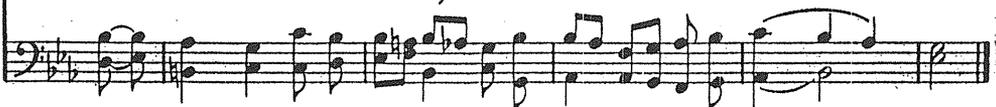
sing	Al- le- lu - ia, Al- le- lu - ia!	Thou burn- ing sun with gold- en
long,	O praise Him! Al- le- lu - ia!	Thou ris- ing morn, in praise re -
way,	O praise Him! Al- le- lu - ia!	The flowrs and fruits that in thee
part,	O sing ye! Al- le- lu - ia!	Ye who long pain and sor- row
ness-	O praise Him! Al- le- lu - ia!	Praise, praise the Fa- ther, praise the
low,	Al- le- lu - ia, Al- le- lu - ia!	Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n- ly



beam,	Thou sil- ver moon with soft- er gleam:	O	praise Him,
joice,	Ye lights of eve- ning, find a voice:	O	praise Him,
grow,	Let them His glo- ry al- so show:	O	praise Him,
bear,	Praise God and on Him cast your care:	O	praise Him,
Son,	And praise the Spir- it, Three in One:	O	praise Him,
host,	<i>Praise Fa- ther, Son and Ho- ly Ghost:</i>	<i>Al- le- lu - ia,</i>	



O praise Him! Al- le- lu - ia, Al- le- lu - ia! Al- le- lu - ia!
 Al- le- lu - ia! Al- le- lu - ia, Al- le- lu - ia! Al- le- lu - ia!



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Articles

The Gospel of the Gospels

by Daniel Hyde

Quick. What are the Gospels? Time is up. Did you answer: “The Gospels are the biographies of Jesus Christ?” When we read the Gospels as biographies only, we basically look at them like trees apart from the proverbial forest. There is a better way to read and hear them. The Gospels are biography, but they are theological interpretations of the life of Jesus Christ with the purpose of proclaiming the coming of the king of Israel and the inauguration of His kingdom over all the earth.

When read this way, we are enabled to read the gospel in the Gospels as the announcement of the fulfillment of the prophets’ promises. Among their promises were that a king would come to Israel, as the Lord promised to Abram (Gen. 17:6), to Judah (Gen. 49:10), to David (2 Sam. 7:12-13), and to the people of God through Solomon’s song (Ps. 72) and Zechariah’s prophecy (Zech. 9:9). When this king would come, He would usher in a kingdom of peace for all nations (Isa. 2:2-4, 9:1-7). We see this coming king and His kingdom in living color in the Gospel narratives.

The entrance of the king and His kingdom is expressed in the birth narrative of our Lord. In the genealogy of Jesus He is described as the “*son of David*” (Matt. 1:1). The fourteen generations from Abraham to David moved towards the great king and kingdom of Israel (1:2-6), while the fourteen generations from David to Babylon moved away from that glorious king’s kingdom (1:7-11). With the coming of Jesus the fourteen generations from Babylon to Christ are a restoration of the Davidic kingship and kingdom (1:12-16). The true identity of this baby boy is shown by the travels of the “*wise men from the east*” (2:1) who traveled to find “*he who has been born king of the Jews*” in order “*to worship him*” (2:2).

John heralded this king’s coming, preaching, “*The kingdom of heaven is at hand*” (3:2), while our Lord’s own preaching in the synagogue was characterized by an announcement of His kingdom (4:17). Throughout His ministry Jesus preached the “*gospel of the kingdom*” (4:23, 9:35; Luke 16:16), a phrase that means that the kingdom is the subject of the gospel. Our Lord preached His parables to communicate to His disciples “*the secrets of the kingdom of heaven*” (Matt. 13:11). Jesus used His identity as king to confound the Pharisees, asking them: “*What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he? They said to Him, ‘The son of David’*” (22:42). Jesus then pointed out that in Psalm 110, David, “*in the Spirit, calls him [the Christ] Lord, saying, ‘The Lord said to my Lord’*” (Matt. 22:43-44a).

Jesus’ conclusion was masterful, leaving the Pharisees speechless: “*If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?*” (22:45).

Even the passion narrative is all about the king and His kingdom, not the sad ending of a biography. When the high priest Caiaphas interrogated Jesus, he said, “*Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God*” (26:63). Jesus answered, “*You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and*

coming on the clouds of heaven” (26:64). Yet this king would first suffer mocking: “Hail, King of the Jews,” having a scarlet robe placed on His back, a crown of thorns placed on His head, and a reed placed in His hand (27:28-29). Even above His head was placed a placard: “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews” (27:37). Yet as John’s gospel makes clear, through humiliation our Lord experienced exaltation: “And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself” (John 12:32).

Of course, our Lord’s resurrection is the most powerful proof of His kingship and kingdom gospel: “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me” (Matt. 28:18). The reason for this, as James said at the Jerusalem Council, was that the resurrection was the raising up of the fallen tent of David (Acts 15:13-18). The king has come and has established His kingdom as the prophets foretold.

What should this way of reading the Gospels do to us?

First, it ought to cause us to read the Gospels with more urgency, for the king has come and His kingdom is at hand. Mark’s characteristic word, immediately, shows us the force of reading and coming to grips with its message.

Second, since the Gospels are not mere biographies, they are not to be read from afar, as if they were only stories of what happened “long ago, far, far away.” We are to participate in these narratives by faith: “Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name” (John 20:30-31).

Third, preachers need to preach the Gospels not as historic artifacts, as principles for victorious Christian living, nor as window dressing in Holy Week services, but as urgent accounts of the inauguration of an everlasting kingdom that our king has established in this world. Ministers must preach the gospel from the Gospels and not turn them into new laws. ❖

Unpopular but necessary thought: If you are blessed to have a good, faithful minister of the word he has spent a good deal of time this week preparing to minister that word to you this coming Lord’s Day. So here’s a question for anyone who professes to take their faith seriously: what preparations are you making to be ready to be ministered to? Or is Sunday worship just an afterthought, the thing that takes up Sunday but that really is not a focus at all of your attention? Will you be tired from all the “fun” you have on Saturday? Will you be bleary eyed and fuzzy brained from too little sleep? Mind taken up with the movie you saw? No Word having been read, no prayer engaged in? Well, God, being so gracious, often blesses us despite all of that, but oh, how different it would be if we prepared! What a blessing it would be for your pastor if you arrived for services prepared and expectant, with an obedient heart and a ready mind! And how much your own soul needs that time after a week of warfare with the world! Just some thoughts as we head toward the Lord’s Day.

Dr. James White

Missionary of the Week

John & Gail Conner
Avant - Tulsa, OK

“For I, the Lord, do not change; therefore you, O sons of Jacob, are not consumed.” Mal.3:6
“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” Heb.13:8

August 2020

With so many changes experienced since March these two verses help us stay stable and confident. Our Lord is not surprised, inconvenienced, blocked or limited by these changes, but is and will adapt His people to creatively serve Him in new ways, reaching new people with the wonderful good news of Jesus the Messiah.

Two things are on my heart these days, both related to the way forward for Hispanic ministries. First is SETECA (Central American Theological Seminary) as Guatemala is experiencing greater upheaval than even the U.S. I quote here news from the President Emeriti (Paul Sywulka) of the seminary:

We still have a curfew from 6 at night until 5 in the morning. Travel between some departments (like counties in the States) is restricted to essential personnel and goods. Public transportation has not opened up yet. Malls and lots of businesses are closed. Many people are without work. The government has provided some programs for relief, but the need is still great. That probably sounds kind of familiar!

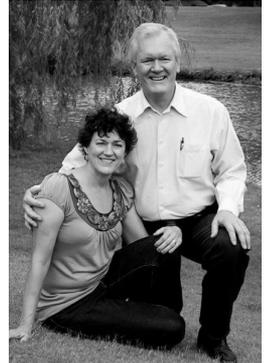
The SETECA campus is basically closed down, with just a few workers for security, lawn care, and the business office. Some international married students are living in seminary housing. The dorms were closed in March and single students went home if they could while others found a place with classmates or friends. Classes are all online now, and that has been a stretching experience for students and professors...

As you can see, we all are finding new ways and new challenges to continue service. If you would please PRAY for SETECA's ministry and for both her logistic and financial needs. See below on how to partner with SETECA financially if the Lord gives you joy and enablement to do so.

Local Hispanic ministry has and is facing the same challenge as all the churches. Virtual church on internet has predominated and just last Saturday our congregation began to meet on Saturday afternoon on site. This is necessitated as our mother church is utilizing the normal space available on Sunday with their own 'adjusted' services. We have found new friends and contacts through the on-line ministries. Please pray with us that these new people might join us in person and also that our 'regular' church family might be able to make the adjustment to Saturday afternoon.

Family wise life has been more busy than normal. Lydia has graduated with honors and is on campus at the University of Oklahoma and has begun classes both on-line and in person. She has certainly learned flexibility in her high school career. One year the floods closed the schools a while, the next spring a state-wide teachers' strike closed them down and then this spring Covid-19. She is wondering what awaits her at college????

John and Gail have been casting away 43 years and 9 kids worth of collected stuff as they downsized to a smaller house. It is amazing how we get attached to 'stuff' due to the memories associated. But this is a good move for us. We do have a new address for you below. Please pray for our settling into new neighborhood. Jennifer, Matt and family have moved from Jacksonville, FL, to Tucson, AZ. John and Gail traveled out to help them with unpacking and caring for the grandkids. We are grateful to be back to a more 'settled' home setting.



This Week at FABC

Today

Morning Worship:
Meeting & live stream on YouTube and
Facebook 10:30 a.m.

Evening Worship in Fellowship Hall:
Meeting only 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Prayer & Bible Study: Live stream only on
YouTube and Facebook 7:00 p.m.

Thursday

Senior Adult Bible Study: Meeting
& live stream on YouTube and
Facebook 10:00 a.m.

We are grateful that our Hispanic church is again meeting on Sunday in the church's facility. This has been encouraging to be able to have education and worship services together again in person and not merely on-line.

Also pray for the Lord to guide and direct Gerson in Guatemala who has finished the twelve-lesson sessions. He has not found a church home that understands and supports his desires for mission support. Ask our Father to guide Gerson to a healthy and mission supportive church home.

John has begun mentoring a new couple via the internet who live in Costa Rica. They are in the structured process of pursuing career mission service with Avant. Hedmond and Yessica Fuentes are an excellent, skilled couple involved in ministry and leadership at a mission minded church. Please pray for the Lord's preparing them through this process and directing them to the place and type of ministry to most effectively serve.

Thanks again for all of your encouragement, support, prayers, communication. We are grateful for each of you and along with you look with anticipation to how our creative and ever initiating Lord will use all these upheavals to forward His work among us and advance the gospel through us.

John & Gail Conner

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jconner@avmi.org

Bible Reading Schedule

September 2020

Ephesians

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30

Memorize:

¹Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children.

²And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:1-2 ESV



Extra Notes:

Lockup Deacons for September:

Michael Kleinpeter, Joe Morris

For Hearing Impaired

If you have difficulties hearing, we have listening aid devices available. Ask any of the ushers, or the technician in the sound booth, if you are in need of one of these devices.

Church Phone:

355-0949

Church Email:

office@fabchurch.com

Church Website:

www.fabchurch.com

If you have any questions concerning the message from today, or are interested in obtaining information about church membership, please see any of the pastors after the service, drop a note in the offering plate indicating your desire to talk with a pastor, or call the church office.



Video and audio recordings of the messages are available for listening or downloading from

www.fabchurch.com/sermons