

STAY *Connected* AT CCC

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP, FEBRUARY 11

9th-12th graders, join us for fellowship and study tonight at the Starts' from 5:30 to 7:30. Be sure to bring your own dinner! See the Weekly Update to sign up to bring a dessert to share.

NO CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES, FEBRUARY 18

We will not have Sunday School classes on **February 18th** due to the beginning of winter break. Classes will resume February 25th.

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES

We will be mailing care packages with small gift cards, treats, and other items to CCC students attending college away from home. See the weekly update for a sign up link to contribute items or to donate the shipping cost or cost of an item. Donations are due by **Sunday, Feb. 25**. There will be an info table in the lobby before and after church services on **Feb. 11, 18, and 25** where you can ask questions and drop off donations. Thank you for helping our church show Christ's love to these college students!

FEBRUARY LEADERSHIP MEETINGS

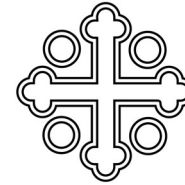
Pray for the elders meeting on Tuesday, 2/20, to pray and seek the Holy Spirit's guidance in overseeing the spiritual health of our church.

MEN'S RETREAT, MARCH 8-9

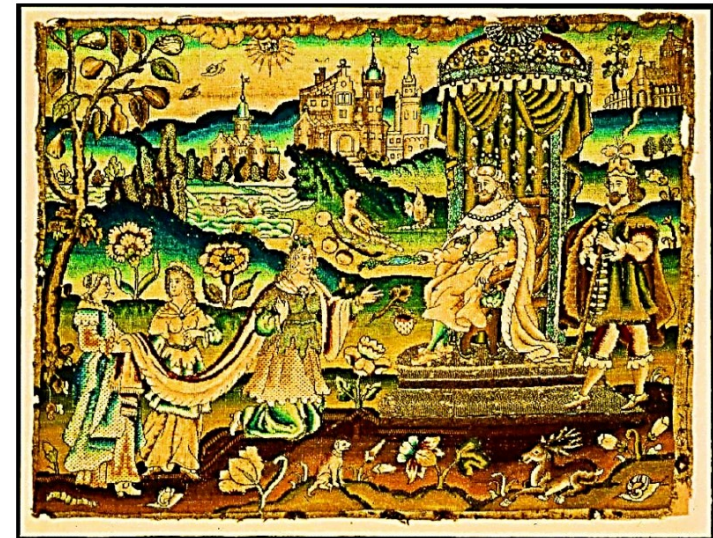
Registration has begun for our upcoming Men's Retreat at Shocco Springs in Talladega, AL. The Retreat will begin Friday evening, March 8, and end Saturday afternoon, March 9. The cost to register is \$100 and includes accommodation, dinner Friday night, and breakfast and lunch Saturday. An optional game of paintball is also planned and requires an additional \$20 to participate. See the Weekly Update for the link to register and reach out to Robby if you have any questions.

PERMANENT FACILITY FUN UPDATE

As of 2/4, we have \$256,273 in this fund. Thank you for your generosity! Please contribute by marking your gift "Permanent Facility Fund."



CHRIST COMMUNITY
CHURCH



Divine Deliverance from Death to Life in Escher

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Christ Community Church is a local congregation of the PCA

OUR VISION:
TO SEE THE GOSPEL CHANGE HEARTS, LIVES, AND COMMUNITY
BY MULTIPLYING DISCIPLES IN NORTHWEST ATLANTA AND BEYOND
CHANGED HEARTS, CHANGED LIVES, CHANGED COMMUNITY

OUR *Worship* CELEBRATION
February 11, 2024

Prelude

~The instrumental cue to gather and prepare for worship

Welcome

***Call to Worship - Psalm 46:1-7**

~God's invitation for us to engage in worship in the Holy Spirit

***Weekly Congregational Response**

~Our humble response to God's call to worship

***Prayer of Invocation**

~The giving of thanks for God's promised presence and work among us

***Song of Preparation and Praise - A Mighty Fortress**

~Our celebration of God as our good and faithful Abba Father

***Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon - Luke 18:31-34**

~Our admission of our failures and need for Christ as Savior

***Congregational Response: Amen!**

***Song of Comfort - Rock of Ages (When The Day Seems Long)**

Whate'er My God Ordains is Right

~Our praise of Jesus as our Savior

**Pastoral Prayer - Byron & Kim Johnson, VISION 938 and
Grace Presbyterian Church Canton**

~Our prayer for the church gathered near and far

Sermon - The Plans of the Wise and the Foolish

Esther 2:19-23

***Song of Response - We Are Not Overcome**

~Our commitment to apply God's Word in and through our lives

***Announcements**

~Weekly opportunities to live out the Word read, confessed, prayed, sung, and preached

***Benediction - 1 Corinthians 15:53-58**

~God's parting blessing as we are sent out on His redemptive mission

***Congregational Response: Amen!**

***Stand**

Giving boxes are located on the table inside the sanctuary by the doors and the welcome table in the lobby.

We Are Not Overcome

Fast from the swelling darkness,
Feast on the power of his light
Flesh will fail, bones will break
Thieves will steal,
The earth will shake
Night will fall, the light will fade
The Lord will give and take away

Put no trust in the earth
In the sod you stand upon
Flowers fade into dust
The Lord will make a place for us

*Because of His great love,
We are not overcome
Because of His great love,
We are not overcome*

Have no fear for your life
Turn your cheek, turn your cheek
Bear the yoke of love and death
The Lord will give life and breath

Response
SONG OF

“THE PLANS OF THE WISE AND THE FOOLISH”

ESTHER 2:19-23

CAMERON BARHAM

Key Truth: God calls us to be faithful as we watch and wait as He providentially works in our present circumstances.

Introduction:

Q: In what areas of your life is God calling you to watch and wait? What does it look like to be faithful as you do so?

Esther 2:19-23: Wise Plans and Foolish Plans as Matters of Life and Death:

“...God continues to work in and through his people, often in ways we cannot immediately discern, and that those ways may even for a period lead us to pass through experiences we would not otherwise choose. But, and this is vital, God’s providential purposes are being worked out even if they can only be seen with hindsight.”

David G. Firth, *The Message of Esther: God Present but Unseen*

Q: Where have you seen God’s good providence at work as you look back over times of watching and waiting? What impact did your remaining faithful even though you didn’t know what God was doing have on the situation?

Application:

Esther 2:19-23 teaches us that:

-God calls us to be faithful as we watch and wait as He providentially works in our present circumstances.

Benediction: *1 Corinthians 15:53-58*

CALL TO Worship

- ¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
- ² Therefore we will not fear though the
earth gives way, though the mountains
be moved into the heart of the sea,
- ³ though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its
swelling.
- ⁴ There is a river whose streams make
glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
- ⁵ God is in the midst of her; she shall not
be moved;
God will help her when morning
dawns.
- ⁶ The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.
- ⁷ The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Psalm 46:1-7

CONGREGATIONAL *Response*

- ⁸To you, O Lord, I cry,
and to the Lord I plead for mercy:
⁹“What profit is there in my death,
if I go down to the pit?
Will the dust praise you?
Will it tell of your faithfulness?
¹⁰Hear, O Lord, and be merciful to me!
O Lord, be my helper!”
¹¹You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;
you have loosed my sackcloth
and clothed me with gladness,
¹²that my glory may sing your praise and not be silent.
O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever!

Psalm 30:8-12

Comfort
SONG OF

Whate'er My God Ordains is Right

Whate'er my God ordains is right:
His holy will abideth
I will be still whate'er he does
And follow where he guideth.
He is my God
Though dark my road
He holds me that I shall not fall
And so to him I leave it all

Whate'er my God ordains is right
He never will deceive me
He leads me by the proper path
I know he will not leave me
I take, content,
What he hath sent
His hand can turn my griefs away
And patiently I wait his day

Whate'er my God ordains is right
Though now this cup, in drinking
May bitter seem to my faint heart
I take it all, unshrinking
My God is true
Each morn anew
Sweet comfort yet shall fill my heart
And pain and sorrow shall depart

Whate'er my God ordains is right
Here shall my stand be taken
Though sorrow, need,
Or death be mine
Yet am I not forsaken
My Father's care
Is round me there
He holds me that I shall not fall
And so to him I leave it all

Rock of Ages
(When The Day Seems Long)

Rock of Ages,
When the day seems long
From this labor and this heartache,
I have come
The skies will wear out,
But you remain the same
Rock of Ages, I praise your name
Rock of Ages,
You have brought me near
You have poured out your life-blood, Your love, your tears
To make this stone heart
Come alive again
Rock of Ages, forgive my sin. (Chorus)

Rock of ages.
Rock of ages.
Bind your children
Until the kingdom comes.
Rock of ages your will be done

Rock of Ages, when in want or rest,
My desperate need
For such a Savior I confess
Pull these idols
Out from my heart embrace.
Rock of Ages, I need your grace.
Rock of Ages,
Broken scorned for me.
Who am I that you would die
To make me free?
To give me glory,
(You) took the death and pain.
Rock of Ages, my Offering. (Chorus)

Rock of Ages, "It is done!" you cried.
The curtain's torn
And I see justice satisfied
Now write your mercy,
On my heart and hands.
Rock of ages, in faith I stand.
Rock of Ages,
My great hope, secure.
Your promise holds
Just like an anchor to my soul
Bind your children
With cords of love and grace.
Rock of Ages, we give you praise.

SONG OF
Comfort

A Mighty Fortress

A mighty fortress is our God
A bulwark never failing
Our helper He amid the flood
Of mortal ills prevailing
For still our ancient foe
Doth seek to work us woe
His craft and pow'r are great
And armed with cruel hate
On earth is not His equal

If we in our own strength confide
Our striving would be losing
Were not the right man on our side,
The man of God's own choosing
You ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus it is He
The Lord of Hosts His name,
From age to age the same
And He must win the battle

And though this world
With devils filled
Should threaten to undo us
We will not fear for God hath willed
His truth to triumph through us
And though this world
With devils filled
Should threaten to undo us
We will not fear for God hath willed
His truth to triumph through us

A mighty fortress is our God
His kingdom is forever (4x's)

If we in our own strength confide
Our striving would be losing

SONG OF
Praise

Confession OF SIN

Gracious and Merciful Father,

We come before you to confess our sin as Your redeemed and beloved children. May Your Spirit alone convict us of our sin and remind us of our pardon in Christ through repentance.

(Take a moment to silently confess.)

We confess that we often fail to remain faithful as we watch and wait for Your providential work in our present circumstances (**Esther 2:19-23**).

We confess these things before You because You are faithful to forgive us in Christ.

Bless us with the assurance of our pardon by Your Holy Spirit in Christ alone, by faith alone, through Your grace alone, from Your Word.

Amen.

Assurance OF PARDON

³¹ And taking the twelve, he said to them, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. ³² For he will be delivered over to the Gentiles and will be mocked and shamefully treated and spit upon. ³³ And after flogging him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise." ³⁴ But they understood none of these things. This saying was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said.

Luke 18:31-34

(Leader) - And based on the gift of this assurance of pardon to us, God's people, we all can't help but say,

(Congregation) - Amen!