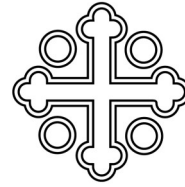


STAY *Connected* AT CCC



CHRIST COMMUNITY
CHURCH

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP, MARCH 3

6th-8th graders, join us for fellowship and study tonight at the Okies' from 6:00 to 7:30. Bring your Bible and see the Weekly Update to bring a snack to share!

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME CHANGE

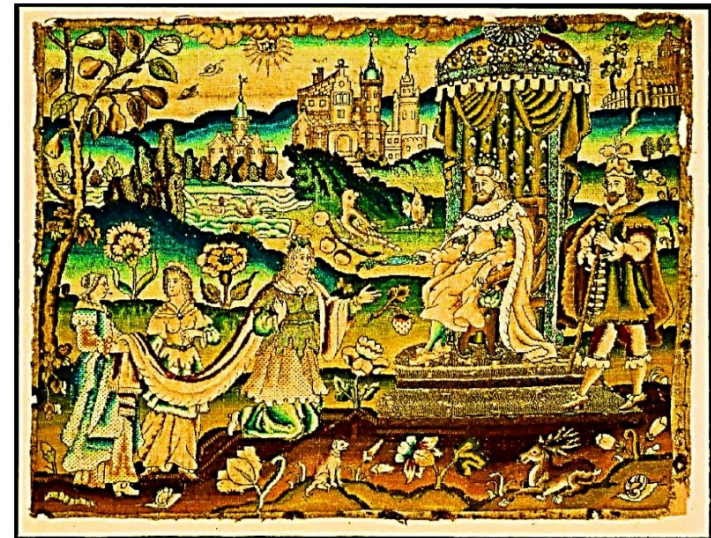
Don't forget to change your clocks as Daylight Saving Time is coming up **Sunday, March 10th**. We **SPRING forward 1 hour!**

NEXT LORD'S TABLE SERVED, MARCH 10

Come to worship with your heart and mind prepared to celebrate the sacrament of communion.

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES

All the items have been pledged. Thank you for helping us care for our students!



Divine Deliverance from Death to Life in Escher

Scan this QR code for Online Giving, Visitor Information and Prayer Requests



Info@christcommunitycobb.org ♦ www.christcommunitycobb.org
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
March 3, 2024

Prelude

~The instrumental cue to gather and prepare for worship

Welcome

***Call to Worship - Psalm 21:1-7**

~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 - O Worship The King**

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

***Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon - Luke 22:14-23**

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

***Congregational Response: Amen!**

***Songs of Comfort - Let Me Find Thee**

Before the Throne

~Our praise of Jesus as our Savior

**Pastoral Prayer - First Care Women's Clinic, and
First Presbyterian Church, Villa Rica**

~Our prayer for the church gathered near and far

**Sermon - The Gentle Risk of a Wise Queen and the
Gracious Response of a Foolish King
Esther 5:1-8**

***Song of Response - Fast From, Feast On**

~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.

Fast From, Feast On

Fast from the swelling darkness,
Feast on the power of his light
Fast from discontentment,
Feast on the joy that he brings

*Sustainer, Protector, the Well of Life
My Helper, My comfort,
The bread of life
Is you
Is you*

Fast from the fear that haunts us,
Feast on the power of his might
Fast from the trap of judgment,
Feast on all that's been redeemed

From the sorrow's shadow
To perfect light!
From the darkness of our doubt
To a cleansing white
From the sorrow's shadow
To perfect light
From the blindness of our sin
To healing sight

SONG OF *Response*

“THE GENTLE RISK OF A WISE QUEEN AND THE
GRACIOUS RESPONSE OF A FOOLISH KING ”

ESTHER 5:1-8

CAMERON BARHAM

Key Truth: Jesus’s death and resurrection opens the way for us to come before God’s throne to enjoy His presence and care.

Introduction:

Q: How do you feel when summoned by someone of greater authority than you? What causes you fear or excitement?

Esther 5:1-8: Wise as a Serpent and Gentle as a Dove: Esther’s Example Before the King:

“On the third day the Persian king, whose word was irrevocable law, extends the golden scepter to Esther, lest she die for coming into his presence unsummoned. Esther approaches the king and completes this gracious gesture by touching the tip of the scepter. Her safety in his presence is thereby guaranteed. This scene pictures the gracious act of a king who holds life-and-death power. Had God not extended the cross of Jesus Christ to the world, all would die in his presence. “On the third day” after the final judgment transpired on the cross, Jesus Christ arose to imperishable life, guaranteeing safety to enter God’s presence to all who reach out in faith to touch the cross-shaped scepter.”

Karen H. Jobes, *Esther: The NIV Application Commentary*

Q: How does Esther exemplify being “wise as a serpent and gentle as a dove”? What granted her confidence to act in this way? Where in your life do you need to grow to be more wise and gentle?

Application:

Esther 5:1-8 teaches us that:

-Jesus’s death and resurrection opens the way for us to come before God’s throne to enjoy His presence and care.

Benediction: *1 Corinthians 15:53-58*

CALL TO Worship

- ¹ O Lord, in your strength the king rejoices,
and in your salvation how greatly he exults!
- ² You have given him his heart's desire
and have not withheld the request of his lips.
- ³ For you meet him with rich blessings;
you set a crown of fine gold upon his head.
- ⁴ He asked life of you; you gave it to him,
length of days forever and ever.
- ⁵ His glory is great through your salvation;
splendor and majesty you bestow on him.
- ⁶ For you make him most blessed forever;
you make him glad with the joy of your presence.
- ⁷ For the king trusts in the Lord,
and through the steadfast love of the Most High,
He shall not be moved.

Psalm 21:1-7

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

Before the Throne of God Above

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong, a perfect plea
A great High Priest
Whose name is love
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while
In heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me
To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there! The risen Lamb
My perfect, spotless righteousness
The great unchangeable I AM
The King of glory and of grace!
One with Himself I cannot die
My soul is purchased with His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ, my Savior and my God
With Christ, my Savior and my God.

SONG OF
Comfort

Let Me Find Thee

Behold me here,
In grief draw near,
Pleading at Thy throne oh King.
To Thee each tear,
Each trembling fear,
Jesus Son of Man I bring.
Let me find Thee,
Let me find Thee.
Let me find Thee,
Lord of mercy King of grace.

Look down in love,
And from above,
With Thy Spirit satisfy.
Thou hast sought me,
Thou hast bought me,
And thy purchase Lord am I.
Let me find Thee,
Let me find Thee.
Let me find Thee,
Here on earth and then on high.

Hear the broken,
Scarcely spoken,
Longings of my heart to thee
All the crying,
All the sighing,
Of Thy child accepted be.
Let me find Thee,
Let me find Thee.
Let me find Thee,
Wounded healer, suffering Lord.

O Worship the King

O worship the King
All glorious above
O gratefully sing
His power and His love
Our shield and defender
The ancient of days
Pavilioned in splendor
And girded with praise

O tell of His might
O sing of His grace
Whose robe is the light
Whose canopy space
His chariots of wrath
The deep thunderclouds form
And dark is His path
On the wings of the storm

*It's your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's your breath in our lungs
So, we pour out our praise
To You only*

Frail children of dust
and feeble as frail
In Thee do we trust
nor find Thee to fail
Thy mercies how tender
How firm to the end
Our Maker, Defender
Redeemer and Friend

O measureless might! Ineffable love!
While angels delight
To worship above
The humbler creation
Though feeble their ways
With true adoration
Shall all sing Thy praise

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 infrequently come before Your throne to enjoy Your presence and care for which Jesus died and rose again (**Esther 5:1-8**).

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

³⁹ And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the ¹⁴ And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵ And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶ For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." ¹⁷ And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. ¹⁸ For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." ¹⁹ And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁰ And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. ²¹ But behold, the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. ²² For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!" ²³ And they began to question one another, which of them it could be who was going to do this.

Luke 22:14-23

(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!