

STAY *Connected* AT CCC

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The office will be **closed** in observance of Memorial Day on **May 25th**.

HIGH SCHOOL GUYS SUMMER DISCIPLESHIP GROUP

John will be leading a summer **discipleship group for high school guys** focused on learning how to participate in the worship and liturgy of the church. The group will meet from **9-10:30am on Tuesdays in June and July at Lazy Labrador Coffee Shop**. If you are interested in participating, email John at hopperpo@gmail.com by May 26th. The first meeting will be on June 2nd.

RAFTING TRIP, JUNE 13

Rising 6th - 12th graders, college students, and parents are invited to our annual **rafting trip on the Nantahala**. The cost is **\$20 per person**. Please see the Weekly Update to **RSVP and pay by May 31st**. College students and parents, please let Matt know if you are able to serve as a driver and/or raft guide!

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS DISCIPLESHIP GROUP

Rising 9th graders - recent high school grads are invited to a **girls' summer discipleship group!** The group will meet **every other Monday from 7:00 to 8:15 PM at Kylie Murphy's house** (6256 New Mill Trail Acworth, GA 30102). The first meeting will be on **June 1st**. Please email Ransley to sign up (ransley621@gmail.com).

COLLEGE STUDENT SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

Recent high school grads and college students home for the summer are invited to a **weekly summer Bible study!** We will meet at a local **Starbucks** (4383 Wade Green Rd. Kennesaw, GA 30144) on **Wednesdays at 7:00 PM**. There will be the opportunity to play pickleball afterwards. Our first meeting is on **June 3rd**. Please text Matt (302-598-6666) or Chris (501-259-1774) to sign up!

SUMMER YOUTH MINISTRY

Rising 6th - 9th graders are invited to a **summer Bible study on Thursdays from 10:30 to 12:00**. Rising 11th - 12th graders are invited to the **Student Leadership Program**. See Matt for more information and to sign up for both opportunities!

MEAL TRAIN FOR THE LOCCISANO FAMILY

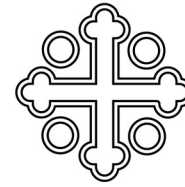
Join us in celebrating the arrival of David Alexander with Frankie and Emily! David was born on **May 14th**, weighing 6 lbs 7 oz. Both mom and baby are healthy and doing well. Please visit the weekly update if you would like to bless them with a meal as they adjust to this new season of life.

CAR NEED FOR ASA MILLS

The Mills, who serve with MTW in Bangkok, are looking for a reliable, used car for their son Asa, who is attending Covenant College. If you know of an available vehicle, please email Tim Mills at rhitim@yahoo.com.

OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE THE MAPHET FAMILY

Join us in celebrating the arrival of George Andrew with the Maphet family! George was born on **May 5th**, weighing 7 lbs 7 oz and measuring 19.75 inches long. Both he and Amanda are healthy and doing well. Please visit the weekly update if you would like to bless them with a meal as they adjust to being a family of five.



CHRIST COMMUNITY
CHURCH

Ecclesiastes

*The frustrating Elusiveness of Life
and a Joyful Faith in the fear of the Lord*

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

May 24. 2026

Prelude

~The instrumental cue to gather and prepare for worship

Welcome

***Call to Worship - Psalm 37:27-31**

~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 - James 3:13-18**

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

***Congregational Response: Amen!**

***Songs of Comfort - Jesus with Thy Church Abide**

Come Ye Souls by Sin Afflicted

~Our praise of Jesus as our Savior

Pastoral Prayer - Chris & Kelsey Blackman, RUF @ KSU and First Presbyterian Church, Ellijay

~Our prayer for the church gathered near and far

Sermon - The Gatherer's Defense of Wisdom Ecclesiastes 7:7-13

***Song of Response - The Goodness of Jesus**

~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 - Ecclesiastes 12:13**

~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.

The Goodness of Jesus

Come you weary heart now to Jesus
Come you anxious soul now and see
There is perfect love
And comfort for your tears
Rest here in His wondrous peace

*Oh the goodness,
The goodness of Jesus
Satisfied, He is all that I need
May it be, come what may,
That I rest all my days
In the goodness of Jesus*

Come find what this world
Cannot offer
Come and find your joy
Here complete
Taste the living water,
Never thirst again
Rest here in His wondrous peace

Come and find your hope
Now in Jesus
He is all He said He would be
Grace is overflowing
From the Savior's heart
Rest here in His wondrous peace

Response
SONG OF

“THE GATHERER’S DEFENSE OF WISDOM”

ECCLESIASTES 7:7-13

CAMERON BARHAM

Key Truth: God calls us to seek wisdom through the Holy Spirit to help us enjoy life and the good gifts that He gives to us in Christ.

Introduction:

Q: *What makes you long for ‘the good ol’ days’?*

Ecclesiastes 7:7-13: Wisdom as Key to the Enjoyment of Life:

“Wisdom and money enable the wise to handle life’s complications well, so that a person might enjoy his or her God-given life for the short time it lasts. This approach to life countermands the axiom ‘Eat and drink for tomorrow we die,’ because it demands biblical wisdom involving *right teaching* (from Scripture) that produces *right thinking* resulting in *right choices* that make for *right living*.”

William D. Barrick, *Ecclesiastes: The Philippians of the Old Testament*

Application Questions:

1. *What are the ways in which you seek wisdom through the Holy Spirit to help you enjoy life and the good gifts that God gives you in Christ?*
2. *How has God helped you in the Holy Spirit to wisely enjoy life and the good gifts that He has given you in Christ?*
3. *What wisdom are you preparing to pass on to others as a good inheritance from the Lord?*

Application:

Ecclesiastes 7:7-13 teaches us that God calls us to seek wisdom through the Holy Spirit to help us enjoy life and the good gifts that He gives to us in Christ.

Benediction: *Ecclesiastes 12:13*

CALL TO Worship

²⁷ Turn away from evil and do good;
so shall you dwell forever.

²⁸ For the Lord loves justice;
he will not forsake his saints.
They are preserved forever, but the
children of the wicked shall be cut off.

²⁹ The righteous shall inherit the land
and dwell upon it forever.

³⁰ The mouth of the righteous utters
wisdom, and his tongue speaks justice.

³¹ The law of his God is in his heart;
his steps do not slip.

Psalms 37:27-31

CONGREGATIONAL
Response

Heavenly Father,
We come this morning seeking You while
You may be found;
We call upon You while You are near;
We forsake our wicked ways, and our
unrighteous thoughts;
we return to You, O Lord, that You may have
compassion on us,
for You abundantly pardon in Christ.
Your thoughts, heavenly Father, are not our
thoughts, neither are our ways Your ways.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are Your ways higher than our ways and
Your thoughts than our thoughts.
For as the rain and the snow come down
from heaven and do not return there but
water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout, giving
seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
so shall Your word be that goes out
from Your mouth;
it shall not return to You empty, but it shall
accomplish that which You purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which You
sent it—our redemption in Christ.
For we go out in joy and are led forth in peace;
Creation breaks forth in a chorus of praise
and longed-for joy
At our revealing as Your sons and daughters.
May we bring everlasting praise to Your name,
O Lord.

Adapted from Isaiah 55:6-13

Come Ye Souls by Sin Afflicted

Come ye, souls, by sin afflicted
Bowed with fruitless sorrow down
By the broken law convicted
Through the cross
Behold the crown
Look to Jesus; Look to Jesus
Look to Jesus
Mercy flows through Him alone

Take His easy yoke and wear it
Love will make
Your obedience sweet
Christ will give you
Strength to bear it
While His grace
Shall guide your feet
Safe to glory, Safe to glory
Safe to glory
Where His ransomed captives meet

Blessed are the eyes that see Him
Blessed the ears that hear His voice
Blessed are the souls that trust Him
And in Him, alone rejoice
His commandments
His commandments
His commandments
Then become their happy choice

Sweet as home to pilgrims weary
Light to newly opened eyes
Like full springs in deserts dreary
Is the rest, the cross supplies
All who taste it
All who taste it, All who taste it
Shall to rest immortal rise
Look to Jesus; Look to Jesus
Look to Jesus
Mercy flows through Him alone

SONG OF
Comfort

SONG OF
Comfort

Jesus with Thy Church Abide

Jesus, with Thy church abide
Be her savior, Lord, and Guide
While on earth her faith is tried
We beseech Thee, hear us
We beseech Thee, hear us

Keep her life and doctrine pure
Grant her patience to endure
Trusting in Thy promise sure
We beseech Thee, hear us
We beseech Thee, hear us

May she one in doctrine be
One in truth and charity
Winning all to faith in Thee
We beseech Thee, hear us
We beseech Thee, hear us

May she guide the poor and blind
Seek the lost until she find
And the brokenhearted bind
We beseech Thee, hear us
We beseech Thee, hear us

SONG OF
Praise

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

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 too often fail to seek wisdom through the Holy Spirit as to how to enjoy life and Your good gifts in Christ (**Ecclesiastes 7:7-13**).

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

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. ¹⁵ This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. ¹⁷ But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸ And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

James 3:13-18

(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!