

STAY *Connected* AT CCC

NO YOUTH GROUP, FEBRUARY 16

There is no youth group tonight due to Winter Break.

NEXT LORD'S TABLE SERVED, FEBRUARY 23

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

2025 MEN'S RETREAT REGISTRATION, MARCH 7-8

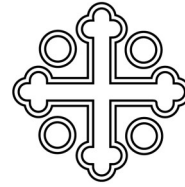
Registration begins this week for our upcoming Men's Retreat at Shocco Springs in Talladega, AL. The Retreat will begin Friday evening, March 7, and end Saturday afternoon, March 8. The cost to register is **\$100 and includes accommodation, dinner Friday night, and breakfast and lunch Saturday**. If you'd like to participate in an optional game of bazooka ball add \$5 to participate. See the **Weekly Update for the link to register** and reach out to Robby if you have any questions.

LAND SALE UPDATE

We continue to receive positive news about the development approval process with the City of Kennesaw. Only a few steps remain, after which the land sale may commence. The updated target for the closing date on the land sale is the first half of March. Thank you for praying for this process. Please contact Marc Start (mstart99@gmail.com, 404.357.6631) if you have questions.

DISCIPLESHIP SURVEYS

Please fill out the Discipleship Survey that we **emailed on Wednesday, 1/22**. We want to hear from you about things that would be helpful to serve you in your discipleship in Christ in the various callings to which He has called you in His Kingdom.



CHRIST COMMUNITY
CHURCH



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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 16, 2025

Prelude

~The instrumental cue to gather and prepare for worship

Welcome

***Call to Worship - Isaiah 29:13-21**

~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 - *The Love of God

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

***Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon - Mark 14:22-25**

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

***Congregational Response: Amen!**

Songs of Comfort - *Come Ye Souls by Sin Afflicted

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

~Our praise of Jesus as our Savior

**Pastoral Prayer - Steve & Amy Robertson, MTW in the Americas and
Christ Covenant Presbyterian Church, Woodstock**

~Our prayer for the church gathered near and far

Sermon - Jesus, the Lord of Loving Wisdom

Mark 7:1-13

Song of Response - *Be Thou My Vision

~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 - 2 Peter 3:14, 18**

~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.

Be Thou My Vision

Be Thou my vision
O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me
Save that Thou art
Thou my best thought
By day or by night
Waking or sleeping
Thy presence, my light

Be Thou my Wisdom
Thou my true Word
I ever with Thee
Thou with me, Lord
Thou my great Father
I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling
And I with Thee one

Riches I heed not
Nor man's empty praise
Thou mine inheritance
Now and always
Thou and Thou only
First in my heart
High King of heaven
My Treasure Thou art

High King of heaven
My victory won
May I reach heaven's joys
O bright heav'ns son!
Heart of my own heart
Whatever befall
Still be my vision
O Ruler of all

SONG OF Response

“JESUS, THE LORD OF LOVING WISDOM”

MARK 7:1-13

CAMERON BARHAM

Key Truth: Jesus calls us to live according to loving wisdom as opposed to heartless legalism.

Introduction:

Q: *In what areas of your life do you fall into legalistic thinking?*

“This passage contains a humbling picture of what human nature is capable of doing in religion. It is one of those Scriptures which ought to be frequently and diligently studied by all who desire the prosperity of the Church of Christ.”

J.C. Ryle, *Expository Thoughts on the Gospels, Vol. 1: Matthew—Mark*

Mark 7:1-13: Jesus Confronts the Nitpicking Legalists with Loving Wisdom and an Opportunity to Repent:

“Insisting on doctrinal purity to fend off corruption from outside is not ignoble. Yet we must guard against the pitfall of the Pharisees, who drew the circle so narrowly that they excluded 99 percent of the human race. Christian communities may erect barriers so high and so thick to preserve their theological virtue that they cannot reach others.”

David E. Garland, *Mark: The NIV Application Commentary*

Application Questions:

1. *How have you benefitted from Jesus calling us to live according to loving wisdom as opposed to heartless legalism?*
2. *What helps you distinguish between loving wisdom and heartless legalism?*

Mark 7:1-13: teaches us that Jesus calls us to live according to loving wisdom as opposed to heartless legalism.

Benediction: *2 Peter 3:14, 18*

CALL TO Worship

And the Lord said:

“Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men,

¹⁴ therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder; and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden.”

¹⁵ Ah, you who hide deep from the Lord your counsel, whose deeds are in the dark, and who say, “Who sees us? Who knows us?”

¹⁶ You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay, that the thing made should say of its maker, “He did not make me”; or the thing formed say of him who formed it, “He has no understanding”?

¹⁷ Is it not yet a very little while until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest?

¹⁸ In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book, and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see.

¹⁹ The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the Lord, and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

²⁰ For the ruthless shall come to nothing and the scoffer cease, and all who watch to do evil shall be cut off,

²¹ who by a word make a man out to be an offender, and lay a snare for him who reproves in the gate, and with an empty plea turn aside him who is in the right.

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;

Who, for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and on the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL
Response

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

Let us love and sing and wonder,
Let us praise the Savior's name.
He has hushed the law's loud thunder,
He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame.
*He has washed us with His blood;
He has washed us with His blood;
He has washed us with His blood;
He has brought us nigh to God.*

Let us love the Lord Who bought us,
Pitied us when enemies.
Called us by His grace and taught us,
Gave us ears and gave us eyes.
*He has washed us with His blood;
He has washed us with His blood;
He has washed us with His blood;
He presents our souls to God.*

Let us sing though fierce temptation,
Threatens hard to bear us down.
For the Lord, our strong salvation,
Holds in view the conqueror's crown.
*He, Who washed us with His blood;
He, Who washed us with His blood;
He, Who washed us with His blood;
Soon will bring us home to God.*

SONG OF
Comfort

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

The Love of God

The love of God is greater far
Than tongue or pen can ever tell
It goes beyond the highest star
And reaches to the lowest hell
The guilty pair
Bowed down with care
God gave His Son to win
His erring child He reconciled
And pardoned from his sin

When ancient time shall pass away
And earthly thrones
And kingdoms fall
When men who now refuse to pray
On rocks and hills
And mountains call
God's love so sure shall still endure
All measureless and strong
Redeeming grace to Adam's race
The saints' and angels' song

*O love of God, how rich and pure!
How measureless and strong!
It shall for evermore endure
The saints' and angels' song.*

Could we with ink the ocean fill
And were the skies
Of parchment made
Were every stalk on earth a quill
And every man a scribe by trade
To write the love of God above
Would drain the ocean dry
Nor could the scroll
Contain the whole
Though stretched from sky to sky

SONG OF
Praise

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 add traditions, rules,
and regulations to Your Word that only serve
to diminish our love for You and for our
neighbors. **(Mark 7:1-13)**

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.

Confession OF SIN

Assurance OF PARDON

²²And as they were eating, he took bread, and
after blessing it broke it and gave it to them,
and said, "Take; this is my body." ²³And he
took a cup, and when he had given thanks
he gave it to them, and they all drank of it.
²⁴And he said to them, "This is my blood of
the covenant, which is poured out for many.
²⁵Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of
the fruit of the vine until that day when I
drink it new in the kingdom of God."

Mark 14:22-25

(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!