

# STAY *Connected* AT CCC

## JUNE PRAYER FOR LEADERSHIP

Please be praying for the **elders**, who will be meeting on **Tuesday, 6/9**. In addition be praying for **Cameron, Matt, Chris, and Anna** as they attend the **PCA's General Assembly** in Louisville, KY from **Monday, 6/22-Friday, 6/26**. Thank you for praying for us!

## MEAL TRAIN FOR THE LOCCISANO FAMILY

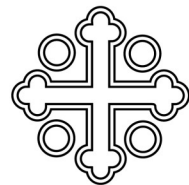
Join us in celebrating the arrival of David Alexander with Frankie and Emily! David was born on **May 14th**, weighing 6 lbs 7 oz. Both mom and baby are healthy and doing well. Please visit the weekly update if you would like to bless them with a meal as they adjust to this new season of life.

## 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](mailto:rhitim@yahoo.com).

## FALL WOMEN'S RETREAT

Save the date for the upcoming Women's Retreat happening in September from the 11th to the 13th! The Retreat will be at Paradise Hills Resort in Blairsville, GA. Look for more information in the weekly update to come in the weeks ahead.



CHRIST COMMUNITY  
CHURCH

## Ecclesiastes

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

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



[Info@christcommunitycobb.org](mailto:Info@christcommunitycobb.org) ♦ [www.christcommunitycobb.org](http://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  
May 31, 2026

STAY *Connected* AT CCC

**Prelude**

~The instrumental cue to gather and prepare for worship

**Welcome**

**\*Call to Worship - Psalm 102:1-17**

~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 - Romans 3:21-26**

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

**\*Congregational Response: Amen!**

**\*Song of Comfort - *My Victory***

~Our praise of Jesus as our Savior

**Pastoral Prayer - Parakaleo Ministries and  
Kings Chapel Presbyterian Church, Carrolton**

~Our prayer for the church gathered near and far

**Sermon - The Gatherer's Solution to Life's Unsolvable Paradoxes  
Ecclesiastes 7:14-20**

**\*Song of Response - *Death Was Arrested***

~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.*

**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).

**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. The first meeting will be on **June 2nd**.

**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!

**NEXT LORD'S TABLE SERVED, JUNE 7**

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

**TWO SERVICES IN THE LARGE MEETING ROOM, JUNE 7 & JUNE 14**

We will not have access to our sanctuary space for 2 weeks due to voting. Both services will be held in the large meeting room (up the ramp) at **9:00 am and 10:30 am**. If you do not need childcare, please consider attending the 9:00 AM service to help make space for families at 10:30 AM.

SONG OF  
Response

*Death Was Arrested*

Alone in my sorrow and dead in my sin  
Lost without hope with no place to begin  
Your love made a way to let mercy come in  
When death was arrested and my life began

Ash was redeemed only beauty remains  
And my orphan heart was given a name  
My mourning grew quiet my feet rose to dance  
When death was arrested and my life began

*Oh your grace, so free  
Washes over me  
You have made me new  
Now life begins with you  
It's your endless love  
Pouring down on us  
You have made us new  
Now life begins with you*

Released from my chains I'm a prisoner no more  
My shame was a ransom he faithfully bore  
He canceled my debt and he called me His friend  
When death was arrested and my life began  
(Chorus)

Our Savior displayed on a criminal's cross  
Darkness rejoiced as though Heaven had lost  
But then Jesus arose with our freedom in hand  
That's when death was arrested and my life began  
(Chorus)

CALL TO  
Worship

- <sup>1</sup> Hear my prayer, O Lord;  
let my cry come to you!
- <sup>2</sup> Do not hide your face from me  
in the day of my distress!  
Incline your ear to me; answer me  
speedily in the day when I call!
- <sup>3</sup> For my days pass away like smoke,  
and my bones burn like a furnace.
- <sup>4</sup> My heart is struck down like grass  
and has withered;  
I forget to eat my bread.
- <sup>5</sup> Because of my loud groaning  
my bones cling to my flesh.
- <sup>6</sup> I am like a desert owl of the wilderness,  
like an owl of the waste places;
- <sup>7</sup> I lie awake; I am like a lonely sparrow on  
the housetop.
- <sup>8</sup> All the day my enemies taunt me;  
those who deride me use my name for  
a curse.
- <sup>9</sup> For I eat ashes like bread  
and mingle tears with my drink,
- <sup>10</sup> because of your indignation and anger;  
for you have taken me up and thrown  
me down.
- <sup>11</sup> My days are like an evening shadow;  
I wither away like grass.
- <sup>12</sup> But you, O Lord, are enthroned forever;  
you are remembered throughout all  
generations.
- <sup>13</sup> You will arise and have pity on Zion;  
it is the time to favor her;  
the appointed time has come.
- <sup>14</sup> For your servants hold her stones dear  
and have pity on her dust.
- <sup>15</sup> Nations will fear the name of the Lord,  
and all the kings of the earth will fear  
your glory.
- <sup>16</sup> For the Lord builds up Zion;  
he appears in his glory;
- <sup>17</sup> he regards the prayer of the destitute  
and does not despise their prayer.

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*

“THE GATHERER’S SOLUTION TO LIFE’S UNSOLVABLE PARADOXES”  
ECCLESIASTES 7:14-20  
CAMERON BARHAM

**Key Truth:** God calls us to run to Him in faith in Christ for wisdom and comfort amid life’s unsolvable paradoxes.

**Introduction:**

**Q:** *How do you respond to life’s unsolvable paradoxes?*

**Ecclesiastes 7:14-20: No Simple Math or Ultimate Control in Life Under the Sun:  
The Call to the Fear of God:**

“The Teacher’s message is this: Since we cannot make sense of this paradoxical world, we should entrust ourselves to God. We should not try to prolong our life by trying to be super-righteous. Nor should we give up on the Christian life by becoming very wicked.”  
**Sidney Greidanus, *Preaching Christ from Ecclesiastes: Foundations for Expository Sermons***

**Application Questions:**

1. *What do you think you deserve for your righteousness? Your wickedness?*
2. *How has God grown you in wisdom and comforted you as you ran to Him in Christ amid life’s unsolvable paradoxes?*

**Application:**

**Ecclesiastes 7:14-20** teaches us that God calls us to run to Him in faith in Christ for wisdom and comfort amid life’s unsolvable paradoxes.

**Benediction: Ecclesiastes 12:13**

SONG OF  
*Comfort*

***My Victory***

You came for criminals  
And even pharisees  
You came for hypocrites,  
Even one like me  
You carried sin and shame  
The guilt of every man  
The weight of all I've done  
Nailed into Your hands

*Oh, Your love bled for me  
Oh, Your blood  
In crimson streams  
Oh, Your death is hell's defeat  
A cross meant to kill  
Is my victory*

Oh, Your amazing grace,  
I've seen and tasted it  
It's running through my veins  
I can't escape its grip  
In You my soul is safe  
You cover everything

Behold the Lamb of God  
Who takes away our sin,  
Who takes away our sin  
The holy Lamb of God  
Makes us alive again  
Makes us alive again

SONG OF  
*Praise*

**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

*O love of God, how rich and pure  
How measureless and strong  
It shall forevermore 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

# 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 run to You in faith in Christ for wisdom and comfort amid life's unsolvable paradoxes (**Ecclesiastes 7:14-20**).

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

<sup>21</sup> But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—

<sup>22</sup> the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction:

<sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup> whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. <sup>26</sup> It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

**Romans 3:21-26**

(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!**