

STAY *Connected* AT CCC

DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR THE WOMEN'S RETREAT, JULY 26

Sunday, July 26 is the deadline to register for the 2026 Women's Retreat! The Retreat will be held **Sept. 11-14 at Paradise Hills Resort in Blairsville, GA**. If you're planning to attend, be sure to register via the link in the weekly update before deadline. If you have any questions about the retreat, contact Becca McLeroy (becca.lapcevic@gmail.com) or Alyssa Bettis (alyssa.bettis1@gmail.com).

FAMILY NIGHT AT THE PARK, JULY 28

The youth group will gather at **Swift-Cantrell Park on 7/28** to play games and spend time in fellowship from **6:30 to 8pm**. **Rising 3rd graders through 12th graders and their parents are invited**. Parents of 3rd - 5th graders are requested to stay. Parents, please reach out to John (hopperpo@gmail.com) if you plan on staying or have any questions.

YOUTH GROUP POOL PARTY, AUGUST 1

6th - 12th graders are invited to a pool party at the **Wagoners' house from 5:00 to 8:00 PM**. Burgers & hot dogs will be provided. Please email Matt to **RSVP by 7/31** and see the Sign Up Genius in the Weekly Update to bring a snack or dessert to share.

YOUTH GROUP PARENTS MEETING, AUGUST 2

Parents of 6th - 12th graders, are invited to an informational meeting at **9:30 on 8/2**. We will discuss the 2026-27 calendar, our philosophy of student ministry, and some opportunities for supporting the student ministry in the year ahead.

NEXT LORD'S TABLE SERVED, AUGUST 2

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

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We're looking for several volunteers to serve in **Children's Ministry for the 2026-27 ministry year**. Opportunities are available in both **Sunday School and the 10:30 a.m. classes, and most volunteers serve once a month**. If you're interested in serving the children and families of CCC, we'd love to have you join the children's ministry team. To learn more or to sign up, please contact Bonnie, or Ransley.

YOUTH MINISTRY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

We are looking for **two more middle school youth leaders for the 2026-27 ministry year**. Please contact Matt if you would like to learn more!



CHRIST COMMUNITY
CHURCH

Ecclesiastes

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

OUR *Worship* CELEBRATION

July 26. 2026

Prelude

~The instrumental cue to gather and prepare for worship

Welcome

***Call to Worship - Psalm 20**

~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 - 1 Corinthians 1:26-31**

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

***Congregational Response: Amen!**

Song of Comfort - *My Worth Is Not in What I Own His Mercy Is More

~Our praise of Jesus as our Savior

Pastoral Prayer - Brian & Mandy Stock, MTW Malaysia and Grace Presbyterian Church, Cedartown

~Our prayer for the church gathered near and far

Sermon - The Gatherer Declares Wisdom Better than Folly Despite Life's Unpredictability Ecclesiastes 9:11-18

Song of Response - *Cornerstone

~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.

Cornerstone

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus name

*Christ alone; Cornerstone
Weak made strong
In the Savior's love
Through the storm
He is Lord, Lord of all*

When Darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil

When He shall come with trumpet sound
Oh, may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
...Faultless stand before the throne

Response
SONG OF

“THE GATHERER DECLARES WISDOM BETTER THAN FOLLY
DESPITE LIFE’S UNPREDICTABILITY”
ECCLESIASTES 9:11-18
CAMERON BARHAM

Key Truth: God calls us to pursue wisdom over folly despite life’s unpredictability for the purpose of peace and reconciliation in Christ.

Introduction:

Q: *How would knowing how and when your life will end affect how you live now?*

Ecclesiastes 9:11-18: The Paradox of Life’s Unpredictability and Wisdom’s Ultimate Value:

“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock.

And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”

Matthew 7:24-27

Application Questions:

1. *In what ways have you suffered the ill effects of strife because of your sin or someone else’s?*
2. *How have you applied wisdom to help bring peace and reconciliation?*

Application:

Ecclesiastes 9:11-18 teaches us that God calls us to pursue wisdom over folly despite life’s unpredictability for the purpose of peace and reconciliation in Christ.

Benediction: *Ecclesiastes 12:13*

CALL TO Worship

- ¹ May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect you!
- ² May he send you help from the sanctuary and give you support from Zion!
- ³ May he remember all your offerings and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices!
- ⁴ May he grant you your heart's desire and fulfill all your plans!
- ⁵ May we shout for joy over your salvation, and in the name of our God set up our banners!
May the Lord fulfill all your petitions!
- ⁶ Now I know that the Lord saves his anointed; he will answer him from his holy heaven with the saving might of his right hand.
- ⁷ Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.
- ⁸ They collapse and fall, but we rise and stand upright.
- ⁹ O Lord, save the king!
May he answer us when we call.

Psalm 20

Response
CONGREGATIONAL

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

His Mercy Is More

What love could remember
No wrongs we have done
Omniscient, all-knowing,
He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea
Without bottom or shore
Our sins, they are many,
His mercy is more

What patience would wait
As we constantly roam
What Father, so tender,
Is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest,
The vilest, the poor
Our sins, they are many,
His mercy is more

*Praise the Lord!
His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness,
New every morn
Our sins, they are many,
His mercy is more*

What riches of kindness
He lavished on us
His blood was the payment,
His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt
We could never afford
Our sins, they are many,
His mercy is more
(Chorus)

Comfort
SONG OF

My Worth Is Not in What I Own

My worth is not in what I own
Not in the strength of flesh and bone
But in the costly wounds of love...
At the cross

My worth is not in skill or name
In win or lose, in pride or shame
But in the blood of Christ that flowed...
At the cross

*And I rejoice in my Redeemer
Greatest Treasure,
Wellspring of my soul
And I will trust in Him, no other.
My soul is satisfied in Him alone.*

As summer flowers we fade and die
Fame, youth, and beauty hurry by
But life eternal calls to us...

At the cross
I will not boast in wealth or might
Or human wisdom's fleeting light
But I will boast in knowing Christ...
At the cross
(Chorus)

Two wonders here that I confess
My worth and my unworthiness
My value fixed - my ransom paid...
At the cross
(Chorus)

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
Comfort

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 too often pursue folly over wisdom because of life's unpredictability (**Ecclesiastes 9:11-18**).

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

²⁶ For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹ so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

(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!