

Privileged To Serve As We Worship

January 18, 2015

AM

Terrell Robins
 John Lemon
 Delvin Criner, Sr
 Jacobe Jerkins
 Mallory Barnes
 Malcolm Robins, Sr
 Royce Lemon
 John Lemon
 Mallory Barnes
 Jarvis Lemon

 Delvin Criner, Jr
 Dorion Criner
 Jacobe Jerkins
 Tadarius Robins
 Mallory Barnes
 Tristian Robins

Announcements:

Invocation/prayer

Song Director

Scripture Reading

Prayer

****Communion & Offering****

Sermon

Prayer for Confessions

Welcome Visitors

Benediction

****Assisting in Communion****

****Ushers****

PM

JaMallory Barnes
 Isaiah Cooper
 Logan Ethyll
 Delvin Criner, Jr
 Terrell Robins
 Troy Robins
 Royce Lemon
 Jacoby Jerkins
 Troy Robins
 JaMallory Barnes

 Jarvis Lemon
 Tadarius Robins

 Malik Cooper
 Dorion Criner

Brethren, please report to the classroom for devotion and prayer before serving)

Welcome to the 3rd Ward Church of Christ! If you are visiting with us today, we want you to know that you are our honored guest. We are so happy that you have decided to worship God and study His word with us today. If you are already a Christian and are looking for a church home, we invite you to consider us at 3rd Ward. We do our best to be a warm, loving fellowship of God's people, and adhere strictly to the bible. If you are not a member of the Church of Christ, we would love to sit down with you and open up the Bible to see what Jesus Christ requires of one to be a member of His church. We have no creed but Christ; no book but the Bible. We are simply New Testament Christians who do our best to follow Jesus not only on Sunday, but also every day of the week. If that is what you are looking for then please speak to one of us today. And, thanks again for honoring us, and more importantly, God, with your presence today!

In The Presence of God

When we give our offerings and contributions we are not just paying dues. It is not the price of a ticket to see a show. We are worshiping God by presenting unto Him tokens of our love and gratitude. Our contributions are our recognition that all we are and all we have come from the loving hand of Jehovah (James 1:17). Our contributions should be the fruit of our hearts welling up with gratitude to God for his bountiful provisions.

We are not taxed or ordered to give a certain amount. As his adult children, God grants us to the privilege to give as we have freely purposed in our hearts (II Cor. 9:7).

In passing, I add that neither do we assemble for worship to be charmed by a smooth-talking orator, entertained by a funny comedian, or lectured o subjects not pertaining to God's sacred word. We assemble to "hear the word of the Lord" (Is. 66:5). Those who stand up to preach must preach the word of God (2 Tim. 4:2). It is their duty to declare the whole counsel of God (Acts 20:27), and in all cases to speak God's Word faithfully (Jer.23:28).

When we come into the presence of God may we truly worship him and may we leave with a rich blessing for having done so.

Prayer Answered

One day a lady was giving her little nephew some lessons. He was generally a good, attentive child, but on this occasion he could not fix his mind on his work. Suddenly he said, "Auntie, may I kneel down and ask God to help me find my marble?" His aunt gave her consent, and the little boy knelt by his chair, closed his eyes, and prayed silently. Next day, almost afraid of asking the question lest the child had not found his toy and so might lose his simple faith, the lady said to him, "Well, dear, have you found your marble?" "No, Auntie," was the reply, "but God made me not want to." That is the way God many times answers our prayers and thus rids us of division within ourselves.

<i>Our Records</i> (last Sunday)	
Morning Worship	84
Evening Worship	40

<i>Upcoming Events</i>

Memory Verse

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again unto a lively hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4. To and inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in Heaven for you, 5. Who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation, ready to be revealed in the last time."...1 Peter 1:3-5

Minister's Message

Worship That Pleases Jehovah

In The Presence Of God

Habakkuk wrote, "But the Lord in His holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before Him" (2:20). A very large part of our Christian life is devoted to the worship of God. While most disciples understand their duties to attend the assemblies of the church, it is evident that many do not have a clear understanding of the meaning and manner of worship. We do not assemble just to SING!! We are there to worship God with our praise. Some love singing, even as they love eating or football. They just happen to love singing gospel songs. They sing for personal pleasure. Worship for them is of small importance. Just singing a religious song does not constitute worship, or else every country band that sings "I'll Fly Away" in a concert is worshiping God; every Dixieland band that performs "When The Saints Go Marching In" is worshiping. When we worship in song we are praising and adoring God. We are teaching and admonishing one another (Col. 3:16). It is a sacrifice of praise offered to God, through Christ (Heb 13:15) and done in spirit and in truth (John 4:24). Entertainment is not a consideration when we are worshiping God. When it comes to praise worship, only the good music which opens the mind to Christian teaching and disposes the soul to holy thoughts. Music without words cannot do that; so instrumental music is excluded from public worship."

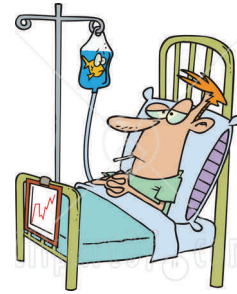
When we are assembled to worship, it is not the time to attempt to sing a song that is unknown to the song leader of the congregation. It is not the time to practice songs not well known to the congregation, or tackle difficult songs that the leader cannot handle. So, tragically the leader might hinder and even defeat the worship of the people. All this places a heavy responsibility on those who have the privilege to lead in this aspect of our worship.

Continued next page

Let Your Faith
Be Seen in
2015

PLEASE Remember To Pray, Visit or Call Those Who Are Sick and Shut-In...

"I was sick, and ye visited me" ...Matthew 25:36



Sis. Frankie Austin
Sis. Christine Creswell
Bro. and Sis. Walter Lee
Sis. Princella Moss
Sis. Jessie Taylor

We pray they will continue to improve in health. Continue to pray for comfort for their families, as well.

They Stayed On

A small party of missionaries were invited to go to Tibet at a time when missionary activity was forbidden there. They were told their task was to help stem the tide of a plague that was raging out of control. When the plague was over, the government asked the missionaries to leave. But these servants of Christ felt a responsibility to minister to the souls of the Tibetans as well as to their bodies. The authorities threatened to kill them, but the fear of death did not deter them from their purpose. They stayed on.

One night the Tibetans encircled their house with flaming torches. They began dancing around in a wide circle, ever diminishing in size seeking to achieve their aim of setting the place ablaze. The missionaries fell to their knees in prayer, and became so intent as the wild chanting came closer that they never realized it had ceased. When they arose, the mob had dispersed, and they were allowed to remain. Years later, one of their converts told them that he had been in the circle, and they had every intention of burning the missionaries to death in their house. However, as they approached the dwelling, there stood before the door a figure in white apparel holding a flaming sword. They fled in fright. And thus the door was opened for the gospel in Tibet, because God honored the faith of those who were willing to die at any time for their Lord.

Welcome Visitors...to the Lord's Service! We are honored by your presence and want to thank you for worshipping here with us!

We want to personally thank you for joining us today. It is our prayer you leave our worship services with an uplifted spirit. Here is what you can expect. **PRAYING, PREACHING, SINGING:** Non-instrumental music plays a great part in our worship services. We hope that you will find this to be an uplifting praise to the Lord...(Eph. 5:19). **LORD'S SUPPER:** Each Sunday, we observe the Lord's Supper, while we reflect on the death, burial and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and the hope of everlasting life we can live through HIM...(1 Cor. 11:23-26). **CONTRIBUTION:** During the service, we as members are given the opportunity to give a portion of what God has given to us. This offering is used to support the Church and to help spread God's word...(1 Cor. 16:1-2).

Announcements



January Birthdays			
Desirae White	4	Shareka Thompson	16
Courtney Adams	6	Kagale Vaughn	18
Ruby Mitchell	6	Rosie Wilson	18
Travion Robins	8	Mallory Barnes	27
Sade Donsereaux	12	Ariel Cooper	28



Happy Anniversary

Note: We must ask you to PLEASE silence (vibrate or turn off) your cell phone and please refrain from walking or talking during our worship service.

Note: Please remember to keep in prayer the following: Sisters Frankie Austin, Cora Blackshire, Christine Creswell, Princella Moss and Jessie Taylor, Bro. and Sis. Walter Lee. Sister Lee, Sis. Betty Burton (Tara Criner's mother) and Bro. James Evans' wife, Cecilia, all for their health concerns.

Note: We're still encouraging each member to continue to invite a guest to our services each Sunday and Wednesday night throughout the month of January. Remember, our goal is to increase our numbers in worship.

Note: We invite to come study with us on Wednesday nights as we begin studying the book of 1st Corinthians.

Note: Please be reminded that pledges for the second phase of our building program are due now until the end of February. Our goal is to raise \$20,000. If you have your pledge to offer today, please lay them in the proper basket during collection time.

Note: The Senior Saints dinner was held on yesterday and we were glad to show our love and appreciation for all of them.

Note: Please keep Bro. Carnell Nealy in your prayers, as he is away visiting the Southside congregation today.

The **Fifth Ward Church of Christ** will host a Health and Wellness Walk-a-Thon on Saturday, January 24 at 10:00 am. It will be a three (3) mile walk from the church building to Finnegan Park. Refreshments will be served at the park. All are welcome to join in.

Note: February 15 will be our "Red" Sunday. Members are asked to wear something red.

Thou Shalt Worship The Lord Thy God

Jesus said "thou shalt worship the Lord thy God. And Him only shalt thou serve" (Matt. 4:10). Man's greatest privilege is to worship the Sovereign Creator of the Universe. No other earthly experience can equal worship. Men have fought and died for the freedom to worship. How much more to come into the presence of Jehovah?

Man's greatest *need* is to have communion and fellowship with God and that is precisely the purpose of worship. When the human heart is in sin it is separated from God, and darkness and despair hangs heavy over it (Isa. 59:1-2). When in acceptable worship, man the sinner, is allowed to approach the Father and receive a blessing (Luke 15:11-24). In Lord's Day worship we remember Christ's death in the Lord's Supper (1 Cor. 11:23-28); that is a communion, a participation with the Lord (1 Cor. 10:16). In our songs and prayers we converse with God (Ps. 34:1-6). Man without God in his life, is like a body without a spirit (James 2:26) But man in a proper relationship with God enjoys the abundant life (John 10:10).

Man's greatest *responsibility* is to worship God in an acceptable fashion. Jesus reminded the woman at the well that God seeks true worshipers who will worship him in spirit and in truth (John 4:23-24). Our worship must be according to the will of the Father to be acceptable (Matt. 7:21). The wise person will look to scripture to be sure that he is indeed serving God as he desires, especially in these times when numerous religions all profess to worship God.

Man's greatest *hope* is to live with God in eternity, which is the promised reward of faithful worshipers. If we want to be with the saved in that glorious worship assembly, then surely we must be among his worshipers now. In Revelation chapter 7, John foresaw the redeemed of all nations in heaven, worshipping God (7:5-11).