

EAGER AVENUE GRACE CHURCH

That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 5:21

Worship Services

Sunday, December 17, 2023

10 am: "Confessing Christ Before Men" | Matthew 10:26-33
Matthew Series | Lesson 38
Bill Parker

11 am: "The Real Story"
Hebrews 2:17
Bill Parker

Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.

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As true believers, we do not celebrate these times and seasons as the world does – not knowing the truth of the glorious Person and redemptive work of Christ. But we do celebrate the birth of our Savior as we celebrate His whole life, death, and resurrection for our salvation. We celebrate this glorious truth every day of our lives. We thank God that ***“unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given” (Isaiah 9:6)***. There are some who focus upon the fact that unbelievers celebrate and magnify their idolatry in these times. But my advice to you who know the truth is this – Just as we meet every Lord’s day to worship and celebrate our dear Savior and the salvation that God has freely given us by virtue of the merits of His righteousness in spite of unbelievers meeting on this same day to worship their idols, let us enjoy this time of year with our families and celebrate the whole life of Christ, including His birth, in spite of what the unbelieving world does.

—Pastor Bill Parker

The Story of Jesus Christ

WHO IS JESUS CHRIST? He is *“Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, GOD WITH US” (Matt. 1:23)*. He is fully God and fully man without sin, and He is the salvation of His people who were chosen and given to Him by the Father before the foundation of the world – *“thou shalt call His name JESUS: for He shall save His people from their sins” (Matt. 1:21)*.

WHY DID HE COME INTO THE WORLD? He came into the world as the Surety of His people to substitute Himself in their place and pay their debt to God’s law and justice. He came to establish the only righteousness by which God can be just to justify ungodly sinners – *“Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon His kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this” (Isa. 9:7)*.

WHAT DID HE ACCOMPLISH BY HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION? He secured the complete salvation of all His people for whom He lived, died, was buried, and arose. He died because of their sins imputed to Him; they are saved and live forever because of His righteousness imputed to them. They all shall be saved because of what Christ finished on the cross – *“For by one offering He hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified” (Heb. 10:14)*.

WHERE IS HE NOW? He is seated in the heavenlies everliving to make intercession for His people and keep them unto final glory until His return – *“Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God’s elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us” (Rom. 8:33-34)*.

–Pastor Bill Parker

“Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death? Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.” (Romans 6:3-4)

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There was not a speck of sin on the conscience, nor a principle of sin in the nature of His people, for which Christ was not judged on the cross; and they are now looked upon as having died with Christ, lain in the grave with Christ, been raised with Christ, perfectly accepted in Him. Their sins, their iniquities, their transgressions, their enmity, their uncircumcision, has been entirely put away by the cross. The sentence of death has been written on the flesh; but the believer is in possession of a new life, in union with his risen Head in glory. What rest – perfect rest – for the heart and conscience is here! What full relief for the burdened spirit! All our sins buried in the grave of Christ, not one – even the smallest – left out! God did this for us! All that His searching eye could detect in us, He laid on the head of Christ when He hung upon the cross! He judged Him there and then, instead of judging us in hell forever!

—C. H. Mackintosh

Please Note

**THERE WILL BE NO SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY (DEC. 24)
OUR SERVICES WILL RESUME SUNDAY, DEC. 31**

The Lord willing, Debbie and I will be travelling Monday to Kentucky to spend time with our family. Some of you may be travelling to visit with families, or family members will be travelling to visit you. Let's pray that the Lord will keep us safe and that we have a blessed time throughout the week and next weekend.

Prayer Requests

Patricia Pannell, Alex Wages, Audrey Asher, Kathy Robinson, Lori Ann Loosier, Leon Drake, Akemi Okada, Sue Parker, Melissa Riggins, Judy Fletcher, the mission in Malawi, Africa.

Hymns

December 17th services

O Come, All Ye Faithful - 100

Silent Night - 85

Call to Worship

(Tune – It Came Upon a Midnight Clear – p. 90)

(Words by Pastor Jim Byrd)

**O hear the tidings of great joy of Jesus Christ the King;
Exalt His Name above all names, and to Him praises sing.
The prophets set Him forth of old, this Savior promised long;
Come sing the praises of the Lord with all the ransomed throng.**

**A Child was born, a Son was giv'n, the Lamb of God was He;
He came to do the Father's will to set the captives free.
Unto the Savior glory give, Jesus Who came to save;
He died to put away our sin, and rose up from the grave.**

**With Him the Father is well pleased, Christ is our Righteousness;
In Jesus sinners are received, He is our worthiness.
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing His praise, let ransomed sinners tell;
That God in human flesh has come, O praise Emmanuel!**