



# WATERMILL CHURCH OF CHRIST

## WELCOMING, SERVING AND GROWING IN JESUS

**December 26, 2021**

### **Order of Service**

#### **Greeting/**

#### **Announcements**

Aaron Morrison

#### **Scripture Reading**

Colossians 1:9-12

#### **Song Leader**

Kerry Cole

#599 (1,2,3)

#434

#### **Prayer**

Larry Baggett

#231

#442 (1,2,3)

#### **The Lord's Supper**

Josh Brumfield

#260 (2,3)

#### **Contribution**

Josh Brumfield

#116

#### **Message**

Bill McFarland

#402 (1,2)

#### **Announcements/**

#### **Prayer**

Jon Ewing

#391 (1,3)



### **Growing**

It's kind of an odd time to think of growing, really: the last few days of a year. There's a sort of peace about this period of time. At least, it seems so to me. Still, most of us sense that increase of some kind will come with the year that lies ahead, enough so that we make resolutions about our part in it.

It turns out that the perfect time to imagine growing is when one thing is coming to its conclusion and another is just ready to begin. That's not just true of years either. You can see this very kind of season being played out in the last two chapters of Luke, one of which is occupied with Jesus' crucifixion and the other with his resurrection.

At first, the details of Luke 23 seem to be simply recounting the injustices Jesus suffered as the last few hours of his life were passing. But as you watch, you begin to notice things. The fact that Jesus is Christ the King gets planted in the mind of Pilate the governor. Guilty Barabbas gets released because of innocent Jesus. Simon of Cyrene gets to carry the cross behind him. The soldiers get Jesus' prayer for their forgiveness. One of the thieves gets to repent and receives a promise. The centurion gets to confess Jesus' innocence. Jesus gets the care of a good, righteous and respected man, and he gets the observant loyalty of several women who are determined that this outrage not be the end of the story.

And it isn't. Luke 24 brings very new scenes into view, and with them numerous opportunities for the growth the previous chapter foreshadowed. Women who believed him before his suffering began to see what his words meant. Disciples whose hopes had been dashed had them renewed by fresh insight into what all the Scriptures said about him. One who'd been left alone in the dark with his own failure and denial had the relationship restored by Jesus. The frightened little group had their disbelief addressed with undeniable and reassuring physical evidence. All of them had their minds opened to understand the Christ of the Scriptures, and the mission to everyone else that was theirs because of him, and the promise of the power to fulfill it.

The seeds that are present in one chapter can begin growing in the chapter that's just ahead. Our vision of "welcoming, serving, and growing in Jesus" anticipates that very thing happening. That's why we're remembering today that we've been blessed by the Lord, and that's why we now take great joy in blessing him.

—Bill McFarland

# Welcome Visitors

We are honored that you joined us today. We hope you will be blessed by your time with us. We have an attended nursery, a cry/training room and a nursing mother's room for your convenience if you have small children. Please click on the barcode on the front of the bulletin to leave a record of your attendance. We hope you can stay around for a few minutes so we have the opportunity to meet you.

*A special THANK YOU to Michelle Hulett for faithfully preparing the communion packets for us each Sunday for the past almost 2 years!! We love and appreciate you.*



We extend our deepest sympathy to Van Barnes in the recent loss of his brother **Lynn**.

We also offer our prayers of comfort and peace to the family of **Jacquelyn Raines**, Pam DeCarlis' mother and Kim Maples' grandmother, who passed away Thursday morning.



Thank you for the beautiful cards. They are very much appreciated. Your best wishes and notes are also great to read over and over. In Christian love, Betty Holden  
Thank you for your prayers and cards after the death of Bob. I'm doing okay for now.  
Love all, Ellie Swartz

## THIS WEEK...

- Sunday evening we meet at 5 p.m.
- Wednesday, 12/29, at 6:30 p.m., we will have a combined year-end devotional in the auditorium. Please join us if you are in town.
- Thursday Ladies Bible Class, Quilters and Card Makers will not be meeting throughout the holidays. These activities will start back on Thursday, 1/6/22.

*There will be NO regular office hours 12/26-31.*

### OUR DAILY BIBLE READING

In the foyer is a copy of the 2022 Daily Bible 'Study' Schedule. While the print is small on the hard copy, it will also be available online. Our reading for 2022 will be the New Testament and its Old Testament citations. Reading for Sunday, Monday and Tuesday will be the Gospels organized by parallel passages and the rest of the New Testament will be Thursday, Friday and Saturday. As we read each week, we will see Old Testament passages cited by Jesus and others. Those are also compiled on Wednesday. As we learn what it means to 'grow in Jesus,' let us focus on Him with this reading/study schedule. Thanks for your participation. We will be blessed.

**Larry Hatfield**, Justin's dad, is recovering from heart surgery. **JT Porter**, volunteer at Thrift Haven, had heart surgery on Dec. 15.

**Karen Duncan** has a doctor's appointment on 12/27 to get the results from her latest MRI and see if further surgery is needed.

**Carl Tindall** will continue treatments Mon-Fri through 1/21.

### Continued prayers for health:

**Marge Langston** (Virginia Hayter's mom), **Victoria Lacy** (Don & Ruth Essex's grand-daughter), **Gerry Tassett** (Lora Luna's mom),



**Sherrie Stern** (Shirlane Horton's sister), **Ruth Raines**, **Meshell Fox**, (Coyeatte Ewing's sister), **David High**

(Lucile's son), **Robert Raines** (Denzil & Ruth's son),

**Bonnie Cole**, **Vicky Thomas** (Tommy & Betty Grabber's niece),

**Dennis & Carolyn Smith**, **Wanda Lou Hurd** (Nancy Snider's cousin), **Alice Daniels**, **John Alspaugh** (Ruth Lund's brother),

**Linda** (Sue Aherin's sister-in-law), **Beverly Hammond**

(Coyeatte Ewing's mom), **Sandie Shelby** (Lucile High's niece),

**Chris Low** (Sheryl's son), **Steve Barnett** (Kerry Cole's brother-in-law), **Ima Coleman** (Sara Keener's friend)



*As the year is coming to its close, we have received from you thoughtful and encouraging greetings, generous acts of your kindness that have blessed us, and many expressions of fellowship to strengthen us. We are very grateful for all the ways in which you have blessed us throughout this year. We wish for you and your loved ones days filled with grace and peace, and a wonderful new year of fruitfulness in righteousness and in every good work. - Bill, Justin, Josh, Sandy, Cindy, Johnnie, Tim*

## WORKS WE SUPPORT

Joey & Tammy Treat,  
Northern Marianna Islands  
(They live in Guam.)

Steven Ashcraft,  
West Africa Mission

Voice of Truth International

Charles Renfro,  
Latin American Missions

Churches of Christ  
Disaster Relief

Fair Haven  
Children's Home

"In Search of the Lord's Way"  
7 AM Sundays KOLR TV 10

"KNOW YOUR BIBLE"  
10:30 AM Sundays/KSPR

## Happy Anniversary

12-27 Allen & Carol McCann/64 yrs.

12-30 Barney & Debbie Crawford/49 yrs.

12-31 Eddie & Linda Currier/50 yrs.

01-01 Travis & Pam Morrison/2 yrs.

01-02 Tim & Becky Marsolf/41 yrs.

### For The Record December 19

Bible Study:	235
Morning:	312
Evening:	105
Wednesday (12/22):	115
Contribution:	\$ 8,347
Weekly Avg.	\$11,300

*Contribution envelopes for 2022 are available in the office! If you would like to start using envelopes, see someone in the office.*



12-28 Eddie Currier  
12-28 Justin Hatfield  
12-29 John Dutton  
12-30 Lynn Luallin  
01-01 Teresa Mahon  
01-01 Alice Daniels  
01-01 Ben Ely  
01-03 Brock Snitker  
01-04 Kenna Taylor  
01-04 Abigail Davis  
01-04 Robert Keith  
01-05 Gloria Luallin  
01-05 Brian Horton  
01-06 Ben Lines  
01-06 Ava Lynn Law  
01-08 Raymond Daniels